A Year in Depth
The Hampshire and Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology

2011-2012
We need YOU to help us preserve YOUR maritime heritage

Supporting the HWTMA

As a charity we are reliant on support from trusts, companies and individuals. The donations and grants that we receive enable us to continue our valuable research, education and outreach work. We are seeking funds to continue to ensure that we succeed in preserving our fascinating but fragile maritime past and to engage communities with their local cultural heritage.

Trusts and Foundations

The HWTMA is extremely grateful for the funding it receives from charitable trusts and foundations. If you are a trustee or a foundation administrator and would like to discover more about our work, please get in touch.

Corporate Sponsorship

We have sponsorship opportunities available for both local national and international businesses. By sponsoring one of our projects or events not only will you be helping to preserve your maritime heritage, but you will benefit through the wide publicity and media interest gained by the HWTMA. This includes national and international media.

Donations in Kind

Donations such as diving equipment and activity materials for our education and outreach programme are of great value to us. We are extremely grateful for the donations we have received in this way during 2011-12. If you think you may be able to help us with donations of equipment of any kind, please contact us - info@hwtma.org.uk

Becoming a Friend of the HWTMA

As a Friend of HWTMA you will receive:

- A membership pack.
- Unlimited free admission to the Underwater Archaeology Centre (UAC).
- Vouchers for free admission to the UAC for up to six guests.
- Regular copies of the HWTMA Friends’ Bulletin.
- A copy of our Annual Report.
- A programme of talks, workshops and social events.
- An invitation to attend our AGM.
- Opportunity to participate in HWTMA fieldwork and research.

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In the past 12 months, the HWTMA has engaged with the public through:

- 3,790 visitors aboard the Maritime Bus.
- 1,710 website visits per month from 92 countries.
- 1,603 school pupils who have received an education session at 24 different schools.
- 88 talks, lectures presentations and other outreach events.
- 177 volunteers, contributing over 3,000 volunteer-hours.
- 8,061 visitors to the Underwater Archaeology Centre, including 943 school pupils from 21 schools.
- 329 people-days of archaeological fieldwork.

HWTMA Policy Statement

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.

The HWTMA 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 HER 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.

Chairman’s Report

The Hampshire and Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology has completed another rewarding year with projects in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight as well as collaborative work in Europe with French and Belgium maritime archaeologists, and has even worked as far afield as Qatar in conjunction with Birmingham University.

For the past three years, the Archaeological Atlas of the 2 Seas (A2S) project with the French and Belgium teams has enabled work to progress on British vessels in French and Belgian waters, and French and Belgian vessels in British waters. In doing so, maritime archaeologists from the three nations have trained and excavated together on sites arising from conflicts between our nations. This positive ethos has been transported from the fieldwork to the classroom where resources have been developed in English, French, Dutch and Breton. To support student interaction, direct and efficient links were made possible through communication on the internet. The World Wide Web was also the foundation for access to the project results, and thousands of submerged heritage sites contained within marine archaeological databases in each country. The A2S fieldwork has been encapsulated on a half-hour film premiered in Southampton on June 28th. These pioneering initiatives are based on a HWTMA formula of research and outreach that has the potential to be rolled out to a wider international arena, and is something that is currently being looked at favourably by UNESCO.

Many sites were investigated during the A2S project. Some were submerged landscapes, including the unique Mesolithic site of Bouldnor Cliff, that were once part of a single European landmass when the sea level was lower. A wreck of particular interest is the Londonier. It was built in Britain, owned by a Belgian company, and working for the French government when lost on 13th March 1918 just south of the Isle of Wight. This ship formed a tangible link between partner nations that was only brought to life by research. The majority of ships sunk during the two World Wars with great loss of life have faded from public consciousness but should not be forgotten. The Trust is building on these initial investigations to develop projects that would help illuminate our rich submerged cultural heritage as the centenary of the First World War approaches.

I wish to record the Trust’s thanks to Garry Mombor for his dynamic leadership, and to longstanding members of staff for their vital work on income generation, research and dissemination activities. I take this opportunity to thank them for their dedicated work in making the Trust such a success. I would also like to thank the European Regional Development Fund, Hampshire County Council, Isle of Wight Council English Heritage, the Heritage Lottery Fund, Southampton City Council, the Universities of Birmingham and York, 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 extend the Trust’s gratitude to Dame Mary Fagan who has served as our President for the past 18 years. Dame Mary has been a great supporter and a champion of our activities. The Trust is now delighted to announce that the Lord Lieutenant of the Isle of Wight, Major General Martin White has agreed to be Dame Mary’s successor as our new President.

John M Bingeman
Chairman
October 2012
Following the success of the A2S project the HWTMA has recently started a second European project under the Interreg IV A 2Seas programme; Archaeology, art and coastal heritage - tools to support coastal management and climate change planning across the Channel Regional Sea (Arch-Manche). The project includes partners from France, Belgium and the Netherlands and aims to further establish cross-border collaboration between the partners.

The Arch-Manche project will demonstrate how archaeology, art and maritime coastal heritage can be used to chart long-term patterns of coastal change and its impact on human settlement. Study of this data allows understanding and modelling of past reactions to climate change to help with planning for the future. The results are important for ‘Integrated Coastal Zone Management’ (ICZM) and will inform sustainable policies for adapting to coastal climate change.

The project is timely due to predicted increases in coastal erosion, flooding and instability affecting Channel coastlines. Arch-Manche will benefit from, and contribute to, developing practice in the study of submerged and intertidal archaeology, paleoenvironments and coastal features. Combining the investigation and dating of archaeological remains with information from artistic representations will provide micro and macro scale data on past coastal change across the 2Seas area.

Arch-Manche

Cross-Border Collaboration

In July this year, members from all Arch-Manche partners joined the French team in Servel, Lannion (Brittany) to carry out archaeological investigations of ‘Le Petit Taureau’ fish trap. The site is located in the estuary of the River Léguer and is believed to represent several phases of use, the oldest is thought to date to around AD 580-660. Fish traps are useful indicators of coastal change; their height and location are very specific relative to the tide in order to be successful. West of Le Petit Taureau is another fishtrap which is only accessible at very low tide, indicating that it may have been built at a time of lower sea-level. Work on features related to intertidal fisheries in the Solent region is planned as part of the Arch-Manche project.

2012 Fieldwork: The Western Solent

The extensive submerged landscapes of the Western Solent were investigated further in 2012. The purpose of the research was to sample and characterise deposits from around the Western Solent that could help inform our understanding of past coastal change. Fieldwork extended from Hurst Spit in the west, Bouldnor Cliff to the south and Tanners Hard off the north-west shores of the Solent.

Peat samples were recovered from a submerged stratified deposit on the west side of Hurst spit. The deposit will provide dating and environmental material and has become exposed because the protective shingle of Hurst Spit has moved further east. The old land surface was protected by the creation of Hurst Spit and will help date its formation.

At Tanners Hard a submerged (-4m OD) peat capped cliff was previously surveyed in 2000 and was found to date to the Mesolithic. The site was revisited in June and July 2012 to record any changes to the submerged cliff and it was discovered that extensive erosion has taken place. The survey was then extended a further 25m to the west of the 2000 survey to allow an increase in on-going monitoring.

At Bouldnor Cliff a series of erosion surveys were conducted along a 500m stretch of submerged cliff. Further evidence of human activity was discovered at both BC-II and BC-V, including the exposure of more worked wooden material at BC-V. These finds provide tangible evidence of human occupation on a site that was lost to coastal change as the sea rose over 8 millennia ago.

Final briefing before diving in the Western Solent.

BC-II: The locations of all artefacts are carefully recorded, even in poor visibility, before they are raised.

Archaeological investigation revealed extensive wooden elements forming part of the fish trap remains at Servel.

www.arch-manche.hwtma.org.uk.

"Investing in your future" Cross-border cooperation programme 2007-2013 Part financed by the European Union (European Regional Development Fund)
The Archaeological Atlas of the 2 Seas (A2S) project came to a successful conclusion in 2012. Initiated in 2009, the project has involved cross-border collaboration between maritime archaeologists in England, Belgium and France. During this time, the partner organisations have studied over 150 submerged archaeological sites spanning almost 100,000 years of human activity, located across the Channel and southern North Sea.

Some of the highlights of this work are described opposite and a key outcome was to collate data between all of the partners into a single database. This is now complete and held within the A2S Geoportal; allowing public access to the underwater cultural heritage in the A2S region.

In addition to creating a common heritage research resource, the project has emphasised public engagement and outreach. Focus upon the shipwreck of the SS Londonier has allowed the project to build links, over the internet, between school children and teachers in different partner countries.

The A2S project leaves a legacy that includes a strong network of volunteers and professional archaeologists. Enduring links between the hundreds of individuals that have taken part in the project will continue to provide a basis for further collaboration in the future.

View the Geoportal at: www.a2s-geoportal.eu

A2S Project

It spanned three years, three territories and featured 1,066 dives undertaken by HWTMA staff and volunteers. The Atlas of the 2 Seas project set out to discover and promote the submerged cultural heritage of the partner countries involved: England, France and Belgium. These impressive figures only hint at the wealth of pioneering research, exploration and collaboration involved in bringing the project to fruition between 2009 and 2012.

During this period, the HWTMA has explored new areas and deployed some innovative approaches in order to maximise our contribution. Joining forces with Kongsberg GeoAcoustics in late 2010, stunning high quality imagery of deep water wrecks located ‘South of the Wight’ was obtained when undertaking our own geophysical survey using cutting edge technology, an example from SS Saxmundham (1888) is shown below. These side scan images, coupled with HWTMA diving survey, led to the correct identification of this vessel for the first time.

Highlighting the archaeological importance of 20th century war casualties was achieved by embarking on the first archaeological assessments of a number of deep water wrecks. The HWTMA dive team used mixed-gas technical diving methods during the 2010 and 2011 seasons to explore the archaeology of a number of vessels, including SS Londonier which then featured prominently in cross-border educational projects. The aims of A2S project were exemplified throughout by the collaborative fieldwork undertaken across the A2S region and which has produced some truly memorable archaeological moments.

Further information at: www.hwtma.org.uk/a2s and www.atlas2seas.eu
January 2012 saw the culmination of HWTMA’s Heritage Lottery Funded ‘Engaging New Audiences’ (ENA) Project.

This innovative, three year education and outreach project has enabled the HWTMA to develop a new range of initiatives specifically designed to increase public awareness, access to, and understanding of, maritime archaeology. At the heart of this has been an effort to provide greater opportunities for people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds to become involved. This has been achieved by taking our exciting and inspiring resources and educational activities into the community to engage new audiences. In doing this, we have provided resources to enable educators in formal and informal settings to use maritime heritage in their teaching.

The project was delivered through a number of linked elements that included the Maritime Bus, maritime archaeology themed activities and events, work placements, volunteer opportunities and the publication of ‘Fun & Learning in the Real World: an educators’ guide’. Events and activities ranged from public festivals and open days to school and college visits and community outreach sessions.

Since the end of HLF ENA, the HWTMA has been working hard to develop the outcomes and products of the ENA project in order to successfully sustain our innovative programme into the future.
The Underwater Archaeology Centre’s (UAC) main exhibition this season, named *West Wight’s Sunken Secrets*, featured short stories from a selection of shipwrecks around the West Wight. The exhibition included an animation created with the Brightstone Brownies, artefacts kindly loaded by Mr Dave Wendes, as well as information boards and books. It was very sad to say goodbye to Mary and Kate Ashton who have retired and have given so much to the UAC over many years. In their place the HWITMA were delighted to welcome a new team of former HWITMA volunteers; Nick Cokes and Anastasia Vasileiadou and the return of long-time UAC employees, Katy Bell and Tony Rayner.

Artefacts and material relating to the Mesolithic site at Bouldnor Cliff have been hosted by a number of public exhibition spaces this year including Salisbury Museum, The National Oceanography Centre (NOC), Southampton and Walraversijde Museum, Belgium. The HWITMA now have a portable exhibition case enabling more temporary and travelling displays.

The Maritime Bus continued to encourage visitors to explore its range of ‘look and touch’ activities at events and schools across the region and beyond. This included exchange students from India who had the opportunity to learn about the maritime history of the South Coast and ‘Oceans and Earth Day’ at the NOC where the bus experienced one of its busiest visitor days to date.
During the last year, the HWTMA has continued its work on the shipwrecks located in the Solent region and further afield. This work has incorporated the fully submerged remains of vessels on the seafloor as well as vessels exposed within the inter-tidal zone. These important sites can contain well-preserved remains of ships and boats that can greatly enhance our knowledge of past human activity on the sea.

Inter-tidal work included an initial survey of the Bee on the River Medina. This vessel is a Cowes Ketch, built in 1801 and hulked in 1926. Such vessels were once a common site on the Solent and represent a very local type of vessel. Work revealed three vessels lying close to each other, which could all be Cowes Ketches.

A rapid survey of a hulked vessel near Port Hamble was undertaken following reports that it was disintegrating. This vessel had not been subject to detailed archaeological investigation before, but the survey suggests that it may be a Langstone Barge, another type of vessel local to the Solent.

Other work, described opposite, has encompassed the continued investigation of the Alum Bay shipwrecks and witnessed the implementation of a new heritage management project. Such work places the HWTMA at the forefront of developments, both in terms of conducting original research and improving the management of our underwater heritage.
The number and scope of projects being undertaken by HWTMA in conjunction with other partner organisations has continued to grow. Using the experience built up over the past 21 years the Trust has been working on projects around the Solent, across the UK and internationally. The diversity of organisations that we work with to investigate submerged heritage reflects the uniquely ‘trans-national’ nature of many marine archaeological sites.

Projects undertaken include the English Heritage funded work on the archive of the Designated Historic Wreck Site of the Stirling Castle (1703) and the HLF funded ‘Providing Access To Hampshire’s Heritage’ (see opposite).

At an international scale the HWTMA has been utilising its experience to work for Birmingham University who are assisting the Qatar Museum Authority to develop understanding of the marine heritage resource of this Gulf State. Additionally, through network projects such as SPLASHCOS (see opposite) the work of the HWTMA is both shared within a wide research community and benefits from the experience of others.

Experience developed by the HWTMA is used to help enhance standards, guidance and best practice. This is reflected in two projects funded by English Heritage; the ‘Marine Handbook’ soon to be published by the Council for British Archaeology, and the drafting of a Project Planning Note for Marine Investigations.

Maritime Archives Initiatives

Maritime Archives and The Crown Estate (MATCE)
A project funded through the Crown Estate’s Marine Communities Fund, the project investigated where the Crown Estate, in its role as a seabed manager, could contribute to improving the number of maritime archaeological archives reaching publicly accessible long-term repositories. The project considered a number of areas where the application of standards, guidance and best practice are required. The project was completed during 2012 and the final report can be downloaded from the Trust’s website: www.hwtma.org.uk/matrice

Maritime Archives Backlog and Dissemination
A new project, initiated in 2012, which has been funded by English Heritage (EH). The backlog of archive material related to maritime archaeology is an acknowledged problem within England. This project will develop a database of the maritime archive backlog for England which will be used by EH to help develop future archiving strategies. The results will be combined with the outputs of the previous archive projects into a formal publication.

PATHH
This two year, HLF funded project has aimed to identify historic routes, which if reinstated, could fill gaps in the Hampshire rights of way network. The project was formulated after a pilot scheme run by the Hampshire Countryside Access Forum (HCAF), who then successfully gained funding for a larger project. HWTMA is managing this project on behalf of the project partners.

Work has included recruiting and supporting project volunteers who are consulting four different types of historic maps held by the Hampshire Records Office. To date over 120 volunteers have been involved, demonstrating the keen interest in this aspect of local history.

The project also includes a range of education initiatives such as talks, a website and a travelling exhibition which has so far visited more than 20 venues around the county. Workshops in schools have been provided for more than 800 children, giving them the opportunity to learn about rights of way and historic maps. www.pathh.hwtma.org.uk

SPLASHCOS
HWTMA have continued to be actively involved in the COST funded Submerged Prehistoric Landscapes and Archaeology of the Continental Shelf (SPLASHCOS) project. This four year project has established a research network across 23 European countries involving 62 organisations and agencies. The project brings together archaeologists and scientists working in the marine environment to promote research and information gathering across international boundaries to enhance understanding of submerged prehistory.

The HWTMA contributes through its extensive experience of investigating drowned landscapes of the Solent and other countries. HWTMA Staff are represented on the project Working Groups and Research Groups. Bi-annual project meetings are held bringing members together for discussion and further project planning. Promotion of research is a key element of the project and HWTMA also contributes through offering ‘Short Term Scientific Missions’ which fund students and researchers from across Europe to participate in work in other countries. www.splashcos.org
A number of completed archaeological projects have been published by the HWTMA during the last 12 months. These have included Volume 1 in the HWTMA’s own monograph series and the Final Report on the three year A2S Project. As well as an in-depth report, completion of the A2S project saw the creation of a documentary film which was premiered at Southampton’s Harbour Lights cinema in June. The pocket size Short History of Fort Victoria, home of the Underwater Archaeology Centre, continues to be a best-seller; resulting in the production of a second edition in 2012.

HWTMA projects and related activity have been widely publicised over the last twelve months. This publicity has included TV news items, newspaper articles, website features and magazine stories. These have appealed to a wide cross-section of people, ranging from mainstream TV and radio to specialist websites and publications for divers, historians and even caravan owners. Such publicity has not just been restricted to the UK, with material appearing internationally in Germany, Spain, France, Sweden, USA and India.

The HWTMA continues to play an important role in directing the future trajectory of underwater cultural heritage management and related subjects. Presence on a large number of committees, groups and consultative bodies means that the maritime archaeology of the Solent region continues to be well represented at a national and international level.
**New Initiatives for 2012**

**Hampshire Heritage Skills Scheme**
In 2012, the HWTMA has been the recipient of funding that has allowed a pair of training placements to be offered. Philippa Naylor and Jasmine Noble-Shelley joined the HWTMA team in the spring of 2012 on two-year, part-time heritage training placements as part of the HLF-funded Hampshire Heritage Skills Scheme.

The Hampshire County Council led scheme is offering nine skills training placements hosted by a consortium of Hampshire-based partners including: Hampshire County Council, Sir Harold Hillier Gardens, Southampton City Council, Portsmouth City Council and the Portsmouth Naval Base Property Trust.

The training scheme offers an exciting opportunity to gain experience in areas of heritage, especially for those without experience of specific qualifications in this field. The scheme will provide all trainees with high quality training not easily found elsewhere.

The two placements have different overall objectives; one focuses on providing experience in maritime archaeological skills while the other is concerned with building experience in public dissemination, outreach and education. Since starting their training, Philippa and Jasmine have been directly involved in a number of ongoing Trust projects as well as playing an important role in several new initiatives, such as the Arch-Manche Project.

**Art 2 Sea**
A grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund has enabled the ‘Friends of the HWTMA’ to launch an exciting new project called Art 2 Sea. This project will bring maritime heritage to life through the collection and comparison of contemporary maritime related images held in museums, galleries and by the general public. In addition, the collection of related oral history will allow people to be engaged directly with the maritime images and to add their memories to the project.

This year, the project held a photographic workshop to enable ten budding photographers with an interest in maritime heritage to photograph maritime scenes to contrast with historical images of the same area. A fieldtrip to Buckler’s Hard to learn about historic shipbuilding was also organised for fifteen local people.

Further workshops and public events are planned for the coming year, some of which will be in conjunction with the HTWMA Maritime Bus. The information collected through these events and by the project in general will be brought together and will culminate in a public exhibition of maritime memories by the participants.

If you would like to find out more information about the Art 2 Sea project, including how you can be involved, or to simply look at some of the images and memories already collected, then visit: www.art2sea.hwtma.org.uk

**Volunteer Contributions & Assistance**

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**HWTMA Supporters 2011-2012**

Beaverbrook Foundation
British Ocean Sediment Core research Facility
Channel Coastal Observatory
Daisie Rich Charitable Trust
European Regional Development Fund
Geodata Institute
Gosling Foundation
Hamble Harbour Authority
Hampshire Countryside Access Forum
Hurst View Campsite
Institute for Archaeologists

**HWTMA would like to extend grateful thanks to all our supporters, ‘Friends’ and volunteers whose help and support have enabled us to achieve the projects and activities outlined in this report.**
‘A Year in Depth’ is a summary of the work of the Hampshire and Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology from October 2011 to September 2012.

Below the waves lies the largest and best-stocked museum in the world. The seabed in our coastal waters contains an assemblage of cultural assets that reflect social and technical development over thousands of years.

The resource is common to us all but is easily overlooked as, being out of sight, it can often be out of mind. A main objective and one of the major successes of the HWTMA is to discover the mysteries of the deep and disseminate the information far and wide.

This year the Trust has delivered an extensive programme of outreach events that have encompassed schools, universities, public events and academic conferences. This work complements the expanding high quality fieldwork undertaken by HWTMA staff and volunteers in Hampshire, the Isle of Wight and further afield.

The work of the HWTMA has featured on national and regional television and radio news and documentaries, as well as on the pages of newspapers, websites and magazines as it champions local and international research of our submerged cultural heritage.