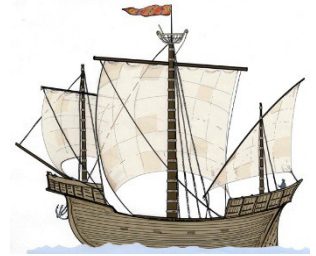


Friends of the Newport Ship

Registered Charity No 1105449

www.newportship.org



News January 2014

A belated Happy New Year to one and all!

Mary Rose Visit

We are delighted to report that we've arranged a visit to the Mary Rose on **Friday 9th May**. You'll see rather more than the general public because on arrival Professor Mark Jones MBE, the Head of Conservation at the Mary Rose



Project, has offered to take our party on a tour of the conservation facility. After that, you'll be able to visit the new Ship Hall and Museum that opened last year. We will probably travel to Portsmouth by *coach* rather than by train as this is more convenient for a large party as well as being less expensive. We can't yet confirm the cost of the visit but it will have to cover the coach fare and the group admission charge to the Museum. This trip is likely to prove very popular, so you should register your interest as soon as possible by contacting Alan Smith (alan.welshdragon.smith@googlemail.com) or Alan Aberg (02920 595289). More information will be placed on our website as soon as it becomes available. Because of the expected level of interest, the trip is only open to members and their immediate households.

Setting up a Trust – Lots of help needed.

As explained at the AGM, the only way to secure the long-term future of our Medieval Ship is to set up a new charitable body capable of taking over the running of the Project from Newport City Council (NCC). The new body would probably be legally separate from the Friends of the Newport Ship and would be responsible for creating a new museum to house it. This is an enormous but exciting challenge. It requires some skills and experience that the current Committee doesn't have, so if you have an appropriate background – or know someone who has and who wants to assist the voluntary sector - this is a wonderful opportunity to help the Ship project.

We need people with experience and skills in business planning, fundraising (from both public and private sources), accountancy, marketing and project planning. We will also need people to volunteer as TRUSTEES of the new organisation. Some may be drawn from those with expertise in the areas mentioned above. Others may come in because they are competent people willing to help guide the Ship Project for “the long haul” to the point where we build a museum to house our vessel. We hope to provide more information in the near future.

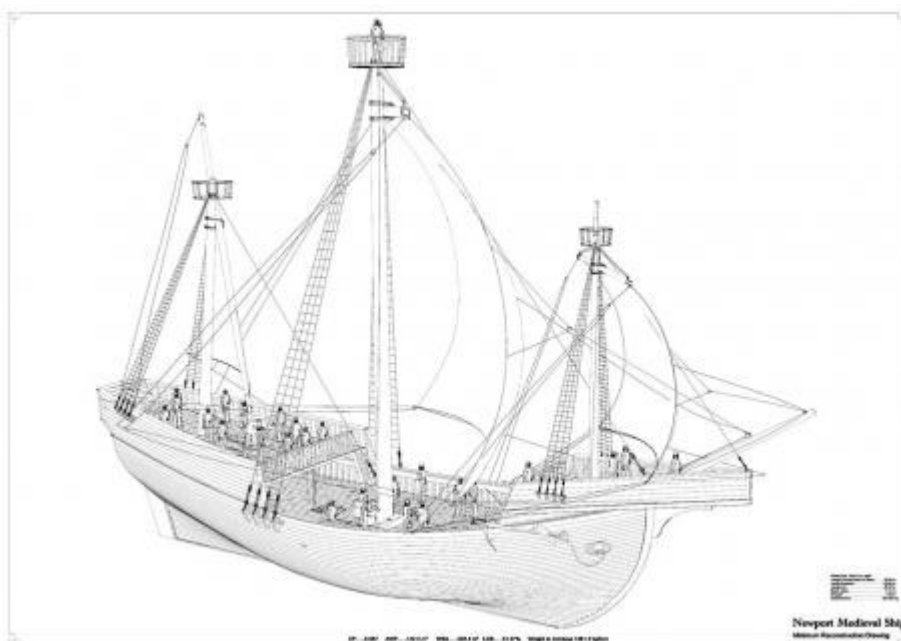
Maritime trade in 15th century Europe.

Apologies to all (and especially to Dr Susan Rose) for the late inclusion of this report of her talk at our October AGM. She spoke about maritime trading patterns along the Atlantic seaboard and also into the North Sea. It included a fascinating account of the cargoes carried, the ports that our ship may have visited, the sailing traditions of seafarers and the technology to which they had access. At the end of which she left time for questions.

This mid-15th Century painting shows the Tower of London and the Pool of London. It is also the first slide of her talk and forms the cover of one of her recent books.



Ship Realisation Progress.



Pat Tanner, who has drawn the latest realisation of our medieval ship, (above) is now working on the second stage of the project. This means that a further set of drawings will be produced later in the year to reflect the most recent research and appearance of our vessel. So watch this space for news of this. Better still, come along to our Open Days where the drawings are likely to be on display!

On the move!

The process of moving many of the Ship's timbers to York for freeze drying has begun ahead of the clearing and closure of the present Ship Centre in October 2014.

A new premises for the storage of the Ship's timbers as they are moved out or returned from York is being sought in the Newport area. It may be possible to allow public access to view the disassembled timbers; in which case FONS volunteers will be needed to help out! More information will be given as it becomes available.

“Grassroots” column.

Committee member Rosi Hollister is publicising our Ship in the above column published weekly in South Wales Argus on Mondays and also on their website. The condensed extract below gives a flavour of the current column.

“This year we are reaching out to the public further than we have before and now have a regular article in the "Grassroots" section of The Argus every Monday. We hope to let everyone know about events, Open Days, talks, visits and matters of interest etc and to keep people up to date with what is happening to the ship. We see this as a way of keeping the ship in the public's awareness and letting them know that real progress is being made towards securing her future. We would welcome news of any events, fundraising, feedback from talks given by Toby or Marie - in fact anything you would think the public would be interested in knowing. Please send details to Phil or Rosi at PR@newportship.org.”

And lastly for this edition.....

Forthcoming pub talks:

Wednesday 19th. February 2014. 7.30 p.m. at St. Julian's Inn

“The Ship That Never Was” Marie Jordan gives an insight into alternative approaches to marine conservation.

Wednesday 19th. March 2014 7.30 p.m. at St. Julian's Inn

“When Britannia really ruled the waves”. Jeff Brooks looks at the size and sweep of the Royal Navy at midnight on March 31st. 1901.

Open Days 2014:

Saturday 26th April

Saturday 24th May

Saturday 12th July

At the Ship Centre in Maesglas, 11.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.