

THE  
NATIONAL  
MUSEUM



# events

January – December 2010

**THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE ROYAL NAVY  
AND HMS VICTORY, PORTSMOUTH**

Welcome! This is the first Events leaflet from the National Museum of the Royal Navy and HMS Victory at Portsmouth Historic Dockyard.

Inside you will find lots of exciting events, activities, talks and tours to entertain you throughout the year.

From big, new weekend events in the Victory Arena to the return of old favourites, there is something for visitors of all ages. And remember, a visit will also give you the chance to see the world's most iconic ship, HMS Victory, as well as discover 400 years of fascinating facts and intriguing treasures at one of the oldest maritime museums in the country.



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## Arena Events

Pepys Show

Armed Forces Day 2010

Big Game Weekend

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# Arena Events

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Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th April  
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## Pepys Show

Samuel Pepys returns to Portsmouth Dockyard exactly 350 years after he started work for the Navy! Meet Pepys, his long-suffering wife Elizabeth, Master Shipwright John Tippetts and a cast of characters from his famous diaries. The History Re-enactment Workshop are bringing this fascinating period to life with performances in the Arena, along with a host of activities and characters to meet throughout the day.



*For full programme details  
please contact the Museum on  
02392 727582 or email:  
[education.bookings@royalnavalmuseum.org](mailto:education.bookings@royalnavalmuseum.org)*

*Free event, no booking required,  
all ages welcome.*





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Saturday 26th June, 2pm - 4.30pm  
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## Armed Forces Day 2010

Join us once again for this popular event. This year we're making it bigger and better with a street party in the Victory Arena complete with big band music and dance. Come along and have a chat with veterans of all ages and, if you're brave, sample some of our rationing recipes!

*For further details please contact  
02392 727582 or email:  
[education.bookings@royalnavalmuseum.org](mailto:education.bookings@royalnavalmuseum.org)*

*Free entry to all service personnel and veterans,  
no booking required, all ages welcome.*



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Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd August  
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## Big Game Weekend

Fun, games and the Navy have always been linked - just think of Francis Drake playing bowls as the Spanish Armada sailed up the Channel!

Join in the fun as games with a naval theme take over the Arena. See if you can become our giant 'Battleships' champion, have a go at 'From sailor boy to Admiral', take on friends at quoits and float a boat in our mini harbour. Adults can venture into the restricted zone to get a tattoo, meet 'Tokyo Rose', and lose their money at 'Uckers'. From board games to computer games there will be something for all the family.

*For details please contact the Museum on 02392 727582 or email: [education.bookings@royalnavalmuseum.org](mailto:education.bookings@royalnavalmuseum.org)*

*Free event, no booking required, all ages welcome.*



# Adult & Community

Thursday 18th February, 11am - 4pm

## Sea Life Roadshow Buckland Community Centre

Don't come to us, we'll come to you! Led by the National Museum of the Royal Navy, join us, other local museums and Portsmouth Library Service as we take to the road for a fun-filled day of art and craft, storytelling, object-handling and a variety of other activities. All completely free and on your doorstep!

For details contact 02392 727584 or email: [education.bookings@royalnavalmuseum.org](mailto:education.bookings@royalnavalmuseum.org)

Free event, all ages welcome.

Saturday 10th July, 2.30pm

## History by Water Harbour Cruise

Take to the water with a tour of Portsmouth Harbour to discover 100s of years of naval history. From the fleet's anchorage at Spithead, through to the Harbour defences and support facilities dotted round its shore you'll have a chance to discover fascinating facts with a full commentary by Museum staff and the people who lived and worked at HMS Dolphin, HMS Vernon, Royal Clarence Yard, Priddy's Hard and HMS Excellent. Refreshments available.

Booking essential. Tickets £12 (Concessions/Friends £8) please contact 02392 727588 or email: [education.bookings@royalnavalmuseum.org](mailto:education.bookings@royalnavalmuseum.org)

Adult & Community

Thursday 8th and 15th April, 29th July and every Thursday in August, 11.30am - 12.30pm

## All hands on deck

What is a fid? Where would you find a holy stone? Join us for themed object-handling sessions in HMS Victory led by the Learning Volunteer Team.

Drop-in, free with valid attraction ticket, all ages welcome.

Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th September

## Heritage Open Days – Behind the scenes tours

Join our curators and experts for our popular behind the scenes tour of the Museum buildings, archives and collection stores.

Free tours each day at 11am, 1.30pm and 3pm. All tours must be booked in advance. Contact 02392 839766 or email: [enquiries@historicdockyard.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@historicdockyard.co.uk) to reserve a place.



## Hidden Histories

In this series of talks, specialists from the National Museum of the Royal Navy in Portsmouth will share insights into their historic collections. Making a personal selection they will highlight less well-known items and the surprising, even shocking, histories they reveal.

Saturday 4th September, 2.30pm

## Naval Observers: Eyewitnesses to History

Matthew Sheldon, Head of Curatorial Department

Saturday October 2nd, 2.30pm

## Naval Voices: Oral History

Victoria Ingles, Curator of Oral History

Saturday 6th November, 2.30pm

## Shining Examples: Naval Medals

Richard Noyce, Curator of Artefacts

*Booking essential. Each talk will last 45 minutes and be followed by afternoon tea. Cost £6.00. For further details please contact 02392 727582 or email: [education.bookings@royalnavalmuseum.org](mailto:education.bookings@royalnavalmuseum.org)*

## Black History Month

Wednesday 6th October, 2pm - 3pm

### Chasing Freedom object handling and trail

Find out more about the Royal Navy's role in ending the transatlantic slave trade during this interactive session. Then discover more about Britain's role in the slave trade with a special trail around the Museum.

*Free, drop-in gallery talk, no booking required.*

Thursday 14th October, 11.30am - 12.30pm

### Snapshot in time: the Royal Navy and Slavery

Join us for a glimpse into the fascinating Chidwick photo archive and see for yourself how the Navy helped end the slave trade.

*Free, drop-in gallery talk, no booking required.*

Thursday 21st October, 11.30am - 12.30pm

### Nelsons Multicultural Navy

Come and find out about the international origins of the men who helped Nelson win the battle of Trafalgar.

*Free, drop-in gallery talk, no booking required.*

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 Wednesday 14th April, 12.00 noon  
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Captain John Rodgaard

## Venomous and Valour: A Common Virtue

Captain John Rodgaard US Navy, author of *A Hard Fought Ship: The Story of HMS Venomous* - will give a thrilling account of the history of the ship from its launch in 1919 to its scrapping in 1948.

*Free talk, booking required.*

*Please contact 02392 727582 or email:  
[education.bookings@royalnavalmuseum.org](mailto:education.bookings@royalnavalmuseum.org)*

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 Saturday 22nd May, 2.00pm  
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Iain Ballantyne with Captain Peter Hore

## Killing the Bismarck

Drawing on unpublished photographs and eyewitness records, Iain Ballantyne, author of the forthcoming book *Killing the Bismarck*, will deliver a riveting account of events leading to the sinking of HMS Hood and the Bismarck. With assistance from Captain Peter Hore, he will present dramatic new evidence discovered during research for the book. Not to be missed.

*Free talk, booking required.*

*Please contact 02392 727582 or email:  
[education.bookings@royalnavalmuseum.org](mailto:education.bookings@royalnavalmuseum.org)*

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 Monday 21st June, 7.30pm  
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Professor Richard Corfield

## The Silent Landscape: HMS Challenger 1872

The voyage of HMS Challenger was a scientific circumnavigation of the world lasting almost four years and covering 69,000 miles. Challenger left Portsmouth in December 1872 and returned in May 1876, having travelled as far as Antarctica, Nova Scotia, the Caribbean, South Africa, and Indonesia. Richard Corfield will bring the story to life, taking us through the epic journey and his own discovery of the world of the oceans.

*Booking essential, please see  
[www.portsmouthfestivities.co.uk](http://www.portsmouthfestivities.co.uk) for details.*



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 Saturday 25th September,  
 10am - 1.30pm  
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## Naval Ancestors: Who do you think they were?

Join experts from different museums and archives for a naval family history workshop. Specialists will describe the typical path of different naval careers and show you how to interpret information to understand key service records. You'll also have the chance to put research queries on your naval ancestors to the panel and get on tips on how to investigate further.

Suitable for those getting started on family history research, or who have already traced information but wish to understand more.

*Limited to 50 places. Booking essential.  
 Charge £15.00. Morning coffee provided.  
 For details contact 02392 725490 or email:  
 library@royalnavalmuseum.org*

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 Saturday 4th December, 1.30pm - 4.30pm  
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## Christmas wreath art workshop

Work with a professional florist to create a beautiful nautical wreath for your home or to give as a gift.

*Cost £15 - including materials and afternoon refreshments. Booking essential, please call 02392 727584.*

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 Friday 26th - Sunday 28th March  
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## Patrick O'Brian weekend

Join us again for another journey into the world of Aubrey and Maturin. Highlights of the weekend include an evening concert, lectures by leading experts on the Georgian Navy, a VIP tour of HMS Victory and a special dinner on the Lower Gun Deck, by kind courtesy of Vice Admiral Sir Alan Massey KCB CBE ADC, Second Sea Lord and Commander-in-Chief Naval Home Command.

*Cost £450 for the weekend (excluding accommodation). For more information please contact Sue Goodger.*

*Email: sue.goodger@royalnavalmuseum.org or telephone +44 2392 727 583.*

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 Saturday 9th October, 10am  
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## Flinders Bicentenary Conference The Opening up of Terra Australis, 1774-1814

The Society for Nautical Research (South) present a one-day conference to commemorate the bicentenary of the return of Captain Matthew Flinders (1774-1814) to England in October 1810. A panel of 6 speakers including scholars and professional hydrographers will explore the wider history of the naval exploration of Australia and of surveying in this period, as well as of Flinders himself.

*Booking details and cost from Peter Ashley of SNR (S), email: picamar87@hotmail.com*

# Families & Children

Families and Children

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Wednesday 17th February, 11am - 1pm,  
2pm - 4pm  
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## Ice Warrior – How to survive the Arctic

Get prepared for the frozen world of the Pole by discovering some handy survival tips and making your own Arctic explorers kit.

*Free drop-in workshop, all ages welcome.*

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Thursday 8th April, 11am - 1pm, 2pm - 4pm  
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## Dragon Eggs

Get inspired by Naomi Novik's exciting Temeraire books where dragons fight alongside Nelson's Navy to make a special dragon 'easter' egg to take home!

*Free drop-in workshop, all ages welcome.*

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Wednesday 14th April, 11am - 1pm,  
2pm - 4pm  
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## Globetrotting with HMS Victory

Make your own mini-globe complete with ships and sea creatures.

*Free, with valid attraction ticket, no booking required.*

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Wednesday 14th April, 11am - 1pm,  
2pm - 4pm  
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## Easter Island

Discover the secrets of Easter Island and find out about more about Captain Cook and his voyages.

*Free drop-in workshop, all ages welcome.*

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Thursday 15th April, 11am - 1pm, 2pm - 4pm  
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## HMS Victory Seafari

From fabulous fish to awesome octopi. Find out about life under the ocean waves and create your very own sea creature to take home.

*Free, with valid attraction ticket, no booking required.*

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Wednesday 2nd June, 11am - 1pm,  
2pm - 4pm  
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## Fantasy Ship

Let your imagination run wild to create your own fantasy ship inspired by the weird and wonderful ship badges from our collection.

*Free drop-in workshop, all ages welcome.*

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Thursday 3rd June, 11am - 1pm, 2pm - 4pm  
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## HMS Victory Sea Odyssey

Join us for a drawing adventure with the chance to find out about pirates, fish and mermaids along the way!

*Free, with valid attraction ticket, no booking required.*

*All Wednesday activities take  
place in the Museum.*



Go back to the past and into the future with our Time Travellers Club this summer!

Travel through time with the National Museum of the Royal Navy to find out about the important discoveries and inventions that changed the Navy - and the world! Each week there will be crafts and quizzes plus the chance to add our giant timeline. And, if you get your Time Travellers Logbook stamped every week, you can enter into our free prize draw!

Wednesday 28th July, 11am, 1pm,  
2pm - 4pm

## Back to the 1500s

Find out about the Tudor voyages of discovery including Sir Walter Raleigh's search for El Dorado, the city of gold. Then make your own golden treasures to take home.

*Free drop-in workshop, all ages welcome.*

Wednesday 4th August, 11am - 1pm,  
2pm - 4pm

## Back to the 1600s

Celebrate Galileo and the invention of the telescope by making a stellar spyglass or see stars and make your own 'planisphere'.

*Free drop-in workshop, all ages welcome.*

Wednesday 11th August, 11am - 1pm,  
2pm - 4pm

## Back to the 1700s

Ever heard of the Turtle Submarine? Discover more about the first combat submarine. Then have fun making and testing your very own submarine craft.

*Free drop-in workshop, all ages welcome.*

Wednesday 18th August, 11am - 1pm,  
2pm - 4pm

## Back to the 1800s

Follow in the footsteps of Darwin! Join the Victorian Navy on a voyage of discovery and create your own 'specimen cabinet' full of wonderful creatures.

*Free drop-in workshop, all ages welcome.*

Wednesday 25th August, 11am - 1pm,  
2pm - 4pm

## Back to the 1900s

From hovercraft to airplanes and spaceships, flying machines changed the world in the twentieth century! Come and create your own fabulous flyer!

*Free drop-in workshop, all ages welcome.*

Wednesday 1st September, 11am - 1pm,  
2pm - 4pm

## Into the Future

What will life at sea be like in 2020? Use your imagination to make a fantastic floating, flying or fighting invention for the Navy to use in the future!

*Free drop-in workshop, all ages welcome.*

Every Thursday in August, 11.30am - 12.30pm

## Telescope Tales

Join us every Thursday for storytelling, songs, fun and games in the Family Area.

*Free session for the under 5s and accompanying adult.*

*All summer holiday activities take place in the Museum. Please contact 02392 727584 for details.*

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 Saturday 16th October, 11am - 1pm,  
 2am - 4pm  
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## Get to know Nelson

Crafts and activities in HMS Victory in celebration of Nelson's victory at the Battle of Trafalgar.

*Free with valid attraction ticket, all ages welcome.*

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 Wednesday 27th October, 11am - 1pm,  
 2pm - 4pm  
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## Monster Mermaids & Sea Serpents

Join us at the Museum to investigate scary sea monsters and frighten your friends at Halloween with our creepy sea creature masks.

*Free drop-in workshop, all ages welcome.*

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 Thursday 28th October, Friday 29th October,  
 Saturday 30th October, 11am - 1pm,  
 2pm - 4pm  
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## Vile Victory!

Come aboard if you dare to create skeleton crews and ghostly ghouls down in the murky depths.

*Free with valid attraction ticket, all ages welcome.*

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 Saturday 13th November, 11am - 1pm,  
 2pm - 4pm  
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## Forget me not

Join us at the Museum to commemorate veterans past and present by creating your own fabric artworks inspired by souvenirs, postcards and mementoes sent by sailors to their loved ones back home.

*Free drop-in workshop, all ages welcome.*

## Join us!

Enjoy free entry and concessions for ticketed events by joining The Friends of the Royal Naval Museum and HMS Victory. Other privileges include special talks and visits, discounts in our shops, free admission to the National Maritime Museum, the Royal Marines Museum and the Royal Navy Submarine Museum plus two bulletins and a yearbook to keep you up to date with news and events. All this and much more from as little as £15 a year. To become a Friend ask at Reception or email: [rm.friends@btinternet.com](mailto:rm.friends@btinternet.com)

## Access

All areas of the museum, toilets and baby changing facilities are fully accessible. Most galleries are located on the ground floor with lifts to all other areas. Wheelchairs are available on request from the main reception desk. Guide and assistance dogs are welcome. A portable induction loop is available upon request.

One of the decks of HMS Victory is accessible with a handling activity and virtual tour available to enhance visits.

## Ticket prices

All events are included with a valid entry ticket unless otherwise stated. Some are completely free and do not require entry tickets. Please see individual listings for details or contact us on 02392 727582.

For full details of current entry ticket prices please see [www.historicdockyard.co.uk](http://www.historicdockyard.co.uk) or telephone 023 9283 9766.

*The production of this brochure has been very kindly supported by the Friends of the Royal Naval Museum and HMS Victory.*



*friends*  
 of the  
 Royal  
 Naval  
 Museum  
 and  
 HMS  
 Victory

## Where to find us

HMS Victory and the National Museum of the Royal Navy are located at the far end of Portsmouth Historic Dockyard, approximately 130 metres from the Portsmouth Historic Dockyard Visitor Centre.

Entry to Portsmouth Historic Dockyard is via Victory Gate at the corner of Queen Street and The Hard.

## Getting to us

**Road** Portsmouth Historic Dockyard is less than 5 miles from Junction 12 of the M27. Follow the brown Historic Waterfront signs from the M275 into Portsmouth. The postcode for satellite navigation is PO1 3LA.

**Bus & coach** Many local, regional and national bus and coach services stop at the Hard Interchange, located next to the entrance to Portsmouth Historic Dockyard.

**Rail** Portsmouth Harbour Station is a five minute walk from the entrance to Portsmouth Historic Dockyard.

**Ferry** There are ferries from Gosport and the Isle of Wight to Portsmouth Harbour Hard Exchange, five minutes walk from the entrance to Portsmouth Historic Dockyard.

**Car parking** Portsmouth Historic Dockyard Car Park has 17 disabled parking spaces and 278 parking spaces. The entrance to Portsmouth Historic Dockyard is approximately 100 metres from the Car Park. For more information visit [www.historicdockyard.co.uk](http://www.historicdockyard.co.uk)

## Opening times

The National Museum of the Royal Navy and HMS Victory open at 1000 everyday throughout the year, except on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

From November - March: last entry to Victory is 16.00pm and the Museum closes at 16.30pm.

From April-October: last entry to Victory is 16.45pm and the Museum closes at 5pm.



National Museum of the Royal Navy  
and HMS Victory  
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Email: [education.bookings@royalnavalmuseum.org](mailto:education.bookings@royalnavalmuseum.org)  
[www.royalnavalmuseum.org](http://www.royalnavalmuseum.org)  
[www.hms-victory.com](http://www.hms-victory.com)

