



University of  
**Portsmouth**

THE  
NATIONAL  
MUSEUM  
& HMS VICTORY



**PORT TOWNS  
&  
URBAN CULTURES  
CONFERENCE**

25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> July 2013  
Portsmouth, United Kingdom

## **Welcome & Introduction**

Welcome to the Port Towns and Urban Cultures Conference organised by the University of Portsmouth in partnership with the National Museum of the Royal Navy.

The increasing interest in ‘coastal and Atlantic histories’ have drawn historians’ attention to the importance of port towns. The waterfront was the intersection of maritime and urban space and the port town was often a unique site of cultural exchange that both reinforced and challenged local, national and imperial boundaries. This three-day conference explores the historical importance of port towns and brings together scholars from around the globe to explore the interaction between maritime and urban histories.

In this booklet, you will find further information about the Port Towns and Urban Cultures project at Portsmouth, ways to interact and be involved with the project, the conference programme and maps covering conference locations.

It is hoped that this conference will become a bi-annual event organised and hosted by other institutions / organisations to further enhance and promote research into the historical importance of port towns.

***PTUC Project Team***

## About The Port Towns and Urban Cultures Project

*In partnership with the  
National Museum of the Royal Navy*

The Port Towns and Urban Cultures project, (PTUC), at the University of Portsmouth is dedicated to furthering our understanding of the social and cultural impact of life in port towns from the eighteenth century to the modern period.

Established in 2010 by leading members of the history department at the University of Portsmouth, the group comprises a team of academics from a range of socio-cultural historical disciplines and a number of PhD students. As such, it is at the forefront of new and emerging trends within urban, social, cultural, imperial and coastal history.

Based at the Milldam Campus in the School of Social, Historical and Literary Studies, The Port Towns and Urban Cultures group seeks to develop existing relationships with non-academic institutions whilst promoting further research and expanding collaboration with national and international universities and museums.

Further information on the project can be found at

<http://www.port.ac.uk/departments/academic/sshls/history/research/porttowns/>

### Port Towns and Urban Cultures Online & Social Media

The project has recently launched a website that is intended to create a ‘hub’ for the study of port towns in its widest sense.

The project is also currently involved in developing social media networks as a way to bring academics and non-academics together, along with universities, institutions and organisations to promote, develop and the enhance the study of port towns.

To help support this and to be involved throughout the conference and beyond you can –



Like and Comment on Facebook

[facebook.com/PortTownsAndUrbanCultures](https://www.facebook.com/PortTownsAndUrbanCultures)



Follow and Tweet on Twitter

[twitter.com/PortPTUC](https://twitter.com/PortPTUC)

For conference tweets, ***#porttownshub***



Visit our website / email us

[porttowns.port.ac.uk](http://porttowns.port.ac.uk) [ptuc@port.ac.uk](mailto:ptuc@port.ac.uk)

## Conference Programme

### **DAY 1: 25th July - National Museum of the Royal Navy - Papers 20 mins. MAX**

12:30 - 13:35 Registration and Cold Buffet Lunch

13:45 - 14:00 Welcome

#### **14:00 - 15:00 The Royal Navy in Port Towns**

Chair: Rob James

Portsmouth, end of the road but gateway to the Empire:  
The 'quality' of a dockyard town.

Ann Coats, *University of Portsmouth*, UK

Portsmouth Dockyard at War, 1914 - 1945.

Nick Hewitt, *Portsmouth Naval Base Property Trust*, UK

15:00 - 15:30 Tea / Coffee

#### **15:30 - 16:30 The Royal Navy in Port Towns**

Chair: Mathias Seiter

Newcastle civic elite and naval identity in the 1920s and  
1930s.

E. O'Keeffe, *Queen Mary's London*, UK

A life of duty and service: post-war political and social  
activism of Napoleonic era naval officers.

Lorna M. Campbell & Heather Noel-Smith, UK

16:30 - 17:00 Tea / Coffee

#### **17:00 - 18:00 Keynote Speaker**

Are port towns transnational?

Isaac Land, *Indiana State University*, USA

#### **18:00 - 20:00 HMS Victory**

Wine reception and Hot Buffet

**DAY 2: 26th July (AM) - Royal Naval Club and Royal Albert Yacht Club.**

**All Papers 20 mins. MAX.**

09:00 - 09:30 Registration

09:30 - 11:00 **Panel 1: Crime and Disorder Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries**

Room 1 Chair: Louise Moon

*"Blood in the Docklands"*: Crime and disorder in Barcelona's port area during the Restoration Monarchy.

Florian Grafl, *University of Giessen*, Germany

Stowage, stevedores and pilferers: port towns as settings of material culture.

William Taylor, *University of Western Australia*, Australia

Jewish communities and criminality in Odessa and Alexandria.

Haim Sperber, *Western Galilee College*, Israel

09:30 - 11:00 **Panel 2: Sailor Lives and Families**

Chair: Brad Beaven

Room 2

Being an icon: The perception of the seafarer's wife as a national character.

Hanna Hagmark - Cooper, *Aland Maritime Museum*, Finland

The Invisible Fleet: Families of Royal Navy sailors in nineteenth century Portsea Island.

Melanie Holihead, *University of Oxford*, UK

Sinning Seamen: The Mariner's Church and the New York waterfront.

Mirelle Luecke, *University of Pittsburgh*, USA

11:00 - 11:30 Tea / coffee

11:30 - 13:00 **Panel 3: Identities in Port Towns**

Chair: Jodi Burkett

Room 1

The use of 'Local Colour'; in promoting the identity of port cities: the South African examples of Durban and Cape Town from the 1890s to the 1960s.

Vivian Bickford-Smith, *University of Cape Town* and Visiting Professor of Comparative Metropolitan History, *IHR, University of London*, UK

Sailors identity and social conflict in mid-18th century Cape Town.

Nigel Worden, *University of Cape Town*, South Africa

Edwardian Portsmouth's press, the Royal Dockyard worker, leisure and Empire.

Melanie Bassett, *University of Portsmouth*, UK

11:30 - 13:00 **Panel 4: Port Town Life and Work**

Chair: Simon Smith

Room 2

Shipped out? Pauper Apprentices of port towns during the Industrial Revolution 1750 - 1850.

Caroline Withall, *University of Oxford*, UK

"It was noisy, dirty and smelly and everything smelled of oil", women's experiences of working in the Portsmouth dockyard 1939 - 1945.

Daniel Swan, *University of Portsmouth*, UK

Encounters on the Waterfront: sailors and local people in Helsinki 1940s and 1950s.

Tytti Steel, *University of Helsinki*, Finland

13:00 - 14:00 Buffet lunch

**DAY 2: 26th July (PM) - Royal Naval Club and Royal Albert Yacht Club.  
All Papers 20 mins. MAX.**

**14:00 - 16:00 Panel 5: Port Towns: Heritage and Urban Regeneration**

Chair: Rob James

Room 1

We and the World Liverpool Museum 1851 - 1914.

Alex Scott, *University of Lancaster*, UK

Local culture and reinvention of port city.

Gunter Warsewa, *University of Bremen*, Germany

Beyond Narcissus: the metamorphosis of British harbour cities in the 20th century.

Gabriel N. Gee, *Franklin College*, Switzerland

Place for community and memory in port town revivals.

Shreepad Joglekar and Nathan Heuer, *Kansas State University / Victoria College*, USA

**14:00 - 16:00 Panel 6: Port Town Representations and Imagined Communities**

Room 2

Chair: Mathias Seiter

British representations of Rio de la Plata'.

Elizabeth C. Libero, *University of Colorado*, USA

Rambles about Portsmouth: The port, the city and travellers between 1700 and 1800.

Rosa Maria Delli Quadri, *University of Naples 'L'Orientale'*, Italy

'Hail, Tyneside lads in collier fleets': song culture, sailing and sailors in North-East England

Paul Gilchrist, *University of Brighton*, UK

Shipyard communities on film, 1930 - 1960.

Viki Carolan, *University of Greenwich*, UK

19:00 - 19:30 Drinks in the Royal Naval Club and Royal Albert Yacht Club Bar

19:30 **Conference Dinner:** Royal Naval Club and Royal Albert Yacht Club Bar

**DAY 3: 27th (AM) July - Royal Naval Club and Royal Albert Yacht Club.**

**All Papers 20 mins. MAX.**

09:00 - 09:30 Registration

09:30 - 11:00 **Panel 7: Crime and Disorder Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries**

Room 1 Chair: Isaac Land

Stereotyping again? Crime, alcohol and violence among seamen in Gothenburg, c. 1880 - 1930.

Tomas Nilson, *University of Gothenburg*, Sweden

Policing the global maritime labour force, 1890 - 1940s.

Jonathan Hyslop, *Colgate University*, USA

Constant source of menace to sailors. Boma Boy delinquents Lagos port city 1930s - 1950s.

Paul Ugboajah, *University of Ibadan*, Nigeria

09:30 - 11:00 **Panel 8: Sailor Life**

Chair: Daniel Swan

Room 2

Hull, fishing and the death of trawlertown.

Jo Byrne, *University of Hull*, UK

"Soot, sailors habits and slouch Hats": Sailors in action and print during the Stamp Act crisis.

Molly Perry, *College of William and Mary*, USA

Sailors and their pets: Men and their companion animals on the early 20th century Finnish sailing ships.

Sari Mäenpää, *Maritime Museum*, Finland

11:00 - 11:30 Tea / coffee



**DAY 3: 27th July (PM)- Royal Naval Club and Royal Albert Yacht Club.  
All Papers 20 mins. MAX.**

**11:30 - 13:00 Panel 9: Port Towns and Urban Elites**

Chair: Melanie Bassett

Room 1

The role of urban elites toward the formation of urban spaces in the Aegean port towns during the second half of the 19th century and the early 20th century.

Christos Bakalis, *University of Western Greece*, Greece

An old port town and a new maritime power - Riga within Russia during the 18th century.

Tilman Plath, *University of Greifswald*, Germany

Sea borders in the port cities of Southern Italy: sanitary and customs controls in the port of Naples from the 17th to the 19th century.

Raffaella Salvemini and Paola Avallone, *University of Naples*, Italy

**11:30 - 13:00 Panel 10: Port Town Agencies**

Chair: Jodi Burkett

Room 2

'Endangering the state in a port town' - the Ipswich town governors and the Crown in the 1630s.

Deirdre Heavens, *University of Essex*, UK

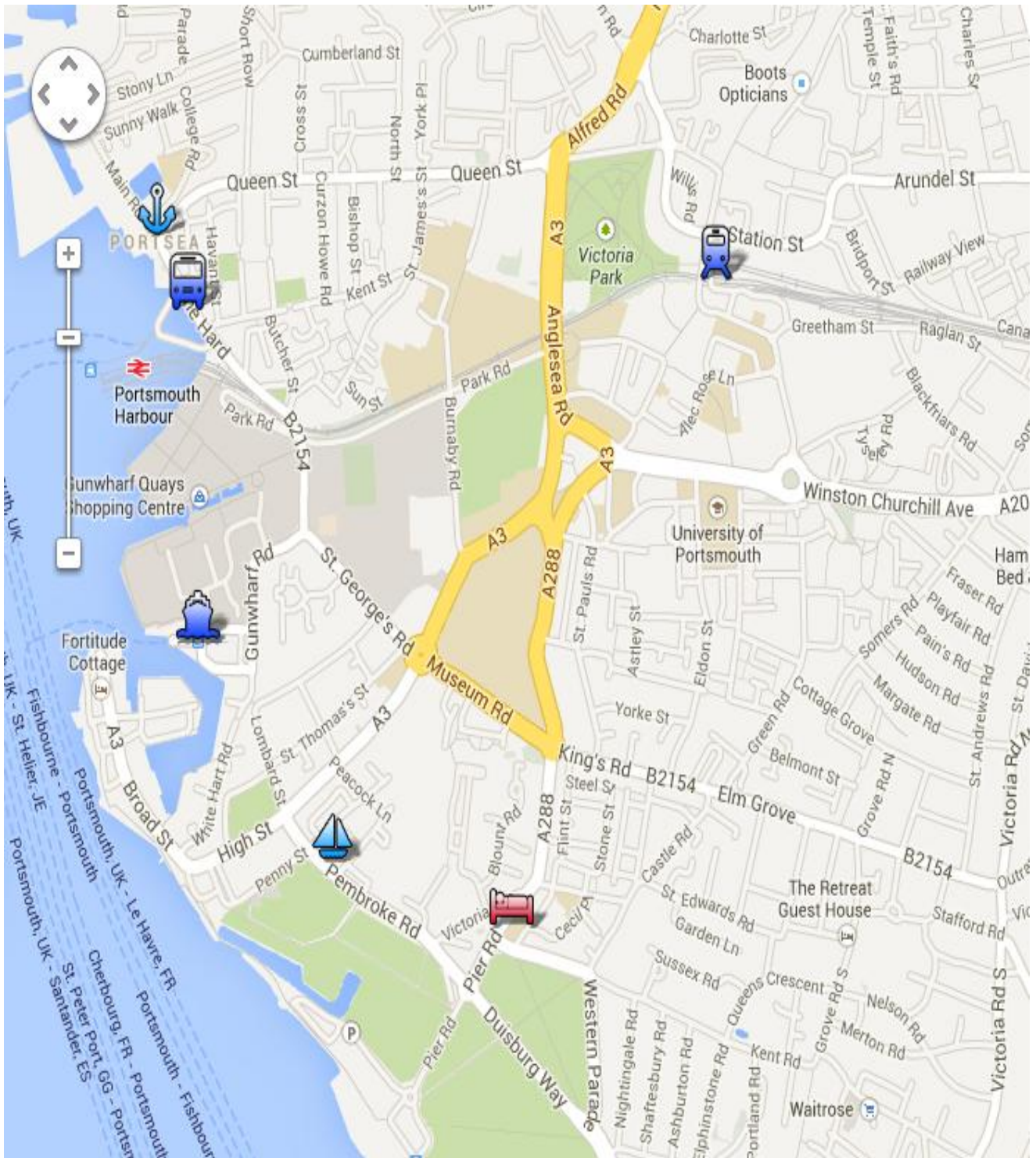
Foreigners in a port town: eighteenth century Cadiz.







Oliver Le Gouic, *University of Bretagne-Sud*, France

Naples Port Town: The naval schools for the Royal fleet and the cargo ships, 1734 - 1861.

Maria Sirago, *University of Naples*, Italy

**13:00 - 14:00 Networking Buffet Lunch**



-  Portsmouth Historic Dockyard  
 Victory Gate, HM Naval Base Portsmouth, Hampshire PO1 3LJ
-  Royal Naval Club & Royal Albert Yacht Club  
 17 Pembroke Rd Portsmouth, Hampshire PO1 2NT
-  Rees Halls  
 Southsea Terrace  
 Southsea  
 HAMPSHIRE  
 PO5 3AP
-  The Hard, Bus Station
-  Portsmouth & Southsea
-  Isle of Wight Ferries

