



The British Commission for Maritime History



King's Maritime History Seminars, 2025-26

2 October 2025

Sea Power Thought in the Cold War

Andrew Livsey, King's College London

16 October 2025

Religion, Radicalism, and the Late Interregnum Navy

Ben Redding, University of East Anglia

30 October 2025

Paper postponed to 15 January 2026

13 November 2025

Procurement for Peace

Alex Clarke, Independent Naval Historian & Founding Member of ShipShape

27 November 2025

S/S Wanja and M/V Mim: the Ships that Changed Strategies in the North Atlantic early in WWII

Synnøve Marie Kvam, Project S/S Wanja & M/V Mim

The Proctor Memorial Lecture

**to be held at Lloyds Register*

11 December 2025

"We won!" The Cod Wars and the confessions of a historian who became head of state

Guðni Th. Jóhannesson, University of Iceland

Note: See below for special registration details.

15 January 2026

Researching Invisible Seafaring Family Histories

Asif Shakoor, Independent Scholar, in conversation with Dr Georgie Wemyss, Co-Director of Centre for Research on Migration, Refugees and Belonging (CMRB) at the University of East London



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29 January 2026

‘Men of the most splendid talents and professional respectability’: Naval surgeons, professional identity, and collective bargaining in the French Wars (1793–1815)

Manon Williams, Institute of Historical Research, School of Advanced Studies

12 February 2026

The Flying Squadron’: the Crimean War in the Sea of Azov campaign, May–November 1855

Alexander Sutherland, King’s College London

26 February 2026

Jorge Juan’s British-style Navy: An 18th Century experiment in technology transfer

Catherine Scheybeler, King’s College London

12 March 2026

Maritime Security: A Global Challenge that Should Not be Ducked

Malcolm Murfett, King’s College London

26 March 2026

The Prince Royal of Denmark’s Yacht (1785): A Maritime History Mystery and an Art History Rediscovery

Julie Papworth and Roger Dence, King’s College London

30 April 2026

Before the Asiento: the English Atlantic slave trade from its origins through to 1713

Neil Datson, Independent Researcher

14 May 2026

A ‘proper object’ of charity?: British naval widows’ petitions, deservingness, and survival strategies, 1819–1847

Carrie Long, Royal Holloway, University of London

The Peter N. Davies Memorial Lecture

28 May 2026

Title to be confirmed

David Morgan-Owen, University of St. Andrews



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The King's Maritime History Seminars for 2025-26 may be attended in person or online. As always, attendance is free and open to all. To take part, you must register in advance by visiting the KCL School of Security Studies Events page, here: www.kcl.ac.uk/security-studies/events.*

Online attendees will receive instructions shortly before the event, by email, about how to join. Otherwise, we will meet in person, as usual, in the Dockrill Room, KIN 628, at King's College London. Papers will begin at 17:15 GMT.

***(Note, however, that the Proctor Lecture on the 11th of December 2025 will be held at Lloyd's Register, and registration is to be done via the BCMH website [Lectures & Events : British Commission for Maritime History](#))**

The King's Maritime History Seminar is hosted by the 'Laughton Naval Unit' and the 'Sir Michael Howard Centre for the History of War' in the Department of War Studies, King's College London. It is organised by the British Commission for Maritime History (www.maritimehistory.org.uk) in association with the Society for Nautical Research (<https://snr.org.uk/>). For further information contact Dr Alan James, War Studies, KCL, WC2R 2LS (alan.2.james@kcl.ac.uk).