Shipwrecks and History
In Plymouth Sound

The SHIPS Project - Annual Report 2012

A UK Maritime Research Project funded by ProMare

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Foreword

The SHIPS Project has a long history of exploring Plymouth Sound, and ProMare began to support these efforts in 2010 by increasing the fieldwork activities as well as reaching research and outreach objectives. 2012 was the first year that we have concentrated our efforts in investigating promising underwater targets identified during previous geophysical surveys. We have had a very productive season as a result, and the contributions that our 2012 season's work has made are summarized in this document.

SHIPS can best be described as a community project, and the large team of divers, researchers, archaeologists, historians, finds experts, illustrators and naval architects associated with the project continue their efforts in processing the information and data that has been collected throughout the year. These local volunteers are often joined by archaeology students from the universities in Exeter, Bristol and Oxford, as well as hydrography and environmental science students at Plymouth University. Local commercial organisations, sports diving clubs and survey companies such as Swathe Services Ltd. and Sonardyne International Ltd. support the project, particularly by helping us create detailed maps of the seabed and important archaeological sites.

I would like to say a big 'thank you' to all the people who have helped us this year, we could not do it without you.

Dr. Ayse Atauz Phaneuf

ProMare President and Chief Archaeologist

ProMare

Established in 2001 to promote marine research and exploration throughout the world, ProMare is a non-profit corporation and public charity, 501(c)(3).

Our team of experienced archaeologists and marine professionals execute a variety of research projects independently and in concert with academic, corporate, public, and governmental organizations and agencies that are designed to advance man's knowledge of history and science.

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Front cover photograph courtesy of Joe Tidball

Aims and Objectives

Aims

The aims of the SHIPS Project are:

To investigate, record, publish and promote the maritime history of Plymouth Sound, it's estuaries, rivers and foreshore.

Objectives

Research

To undertake research using documentary archive material, anecdotal records and oral histories
To document and research objects recovered from underwater and the foreshore in the area

Geophysical Exploration

To collate and reprocess any existing geophysical data available to the Project
To undertake new geophysical survey work within the area

Investigation

To investigate targets and objects located underwater or on the foreshore

Technical Research

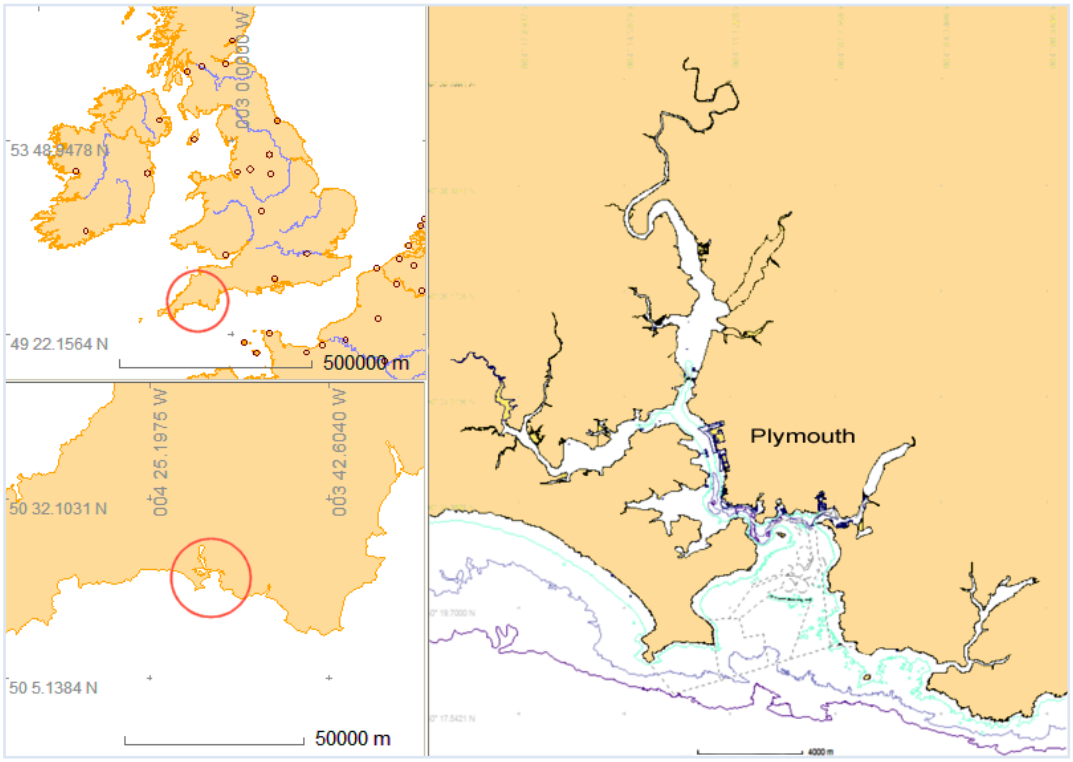
To undertake research into the technology and methods employed by the Project
To research and develop techniques in marine geophysics for archaeological prospection
To investigate wreck site formation and the degradation of materials underwater

Collaboration

To collaborate with and promote organisations with an interest in the maritime history of Plymouth, including academic and government institutions, museums, groups, societies and the public locally, nationally and internationally
To undertake and support training in all aspects of fieldwork

Publication

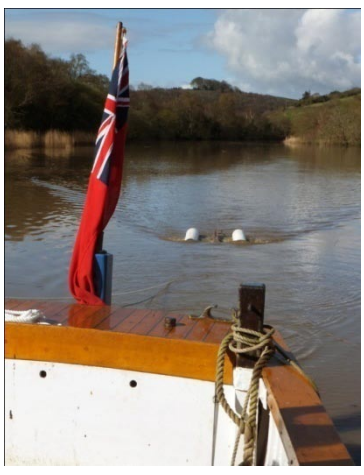
To publish the results of the Project investigations and research using publications, conference papers, talks, the media and the Internet



Projects

The Calstock Roman River Crossing Project

While mapping medieval silver mines on the hill behind Calstock in Cornwall, Peter Claughton and Chris Smart from Exeter University discovered a huge Roman fort lying buried under the fields, under a church and under the graveyard. The fort was on the Cornish side of the river Tamar but no signs of a bridge to cross the river had been found so far. In 2011 we contacted Chris Smart and offered to investigate the river to see if any signs of a bridge or crossing could be found.



We recruited Jack Poleykett to the team as Jack was doing an MSc in Environmental Consultancy at Plymouth University and could tell us more about the mud and sediments that formed the river bed. By analysing the slope of the land around the river we worked out at which places it was possible for a horse and cart to get down to the riverbank. We completed a side scan sonar and sub-bottom profiler survey of the river from downstream at Cotehele, past Calstock and up to Morwellham to the north. The sonar data showed us the shape of the riverbed, features visible on the riverbed and the depth of sediment. Some experimental particle tracer was also put on the foreshore at low tide so the effects of the river flow on the sediments could be measured as part of Jack's project.

The work on the site formed Jack's Masters dissertation and will be made available to the public in a short report and a published journal paper. Unfortunately no signs of a bridge or crossing were found in the river but the geophysical survey has identified places where it would be possible to cross, so further investigation of the riverbank in these areas may provide more clues.

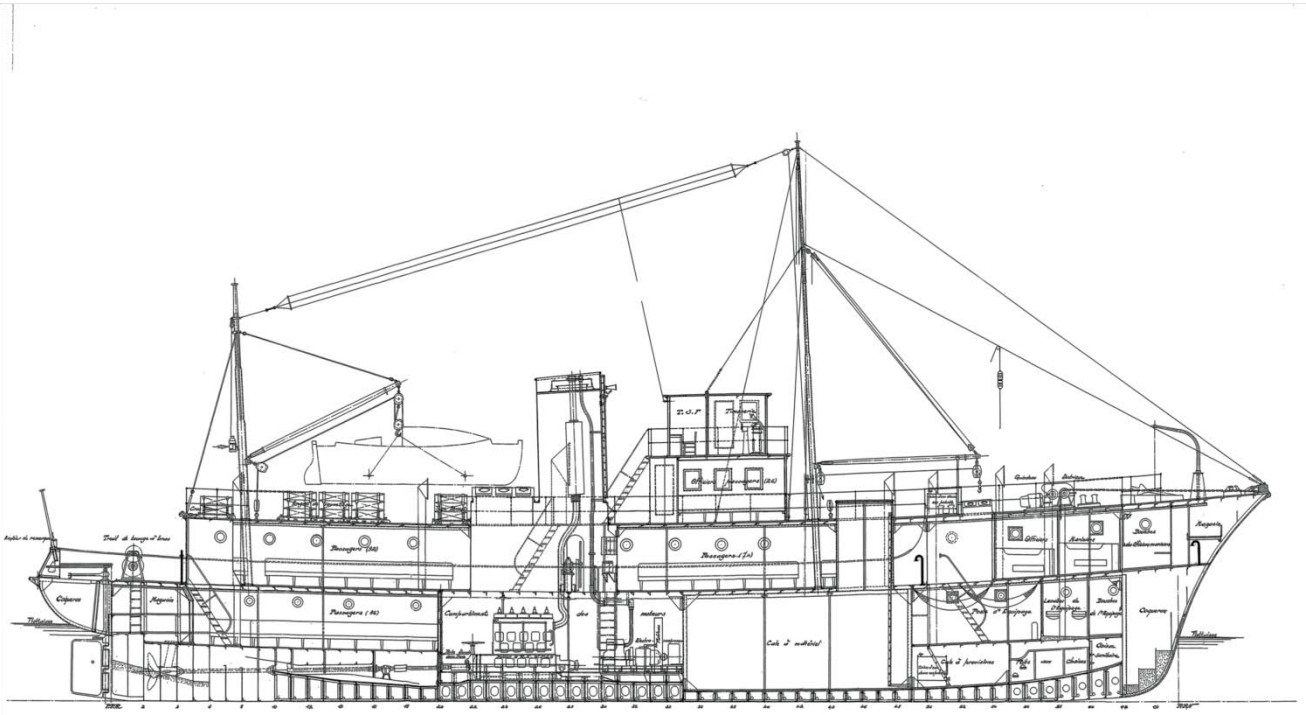
Towing a side scan sonar on the Tamar near Calstock

New Dive Guide Book for Plymouth

The SHIPS Project has collected together a wealth of information about the well known shipwrecks in and around Plymouth that are regularly visited by divers. The most current book available is now out of date so we though that we should produce a new book about these lost ships. Our new book includes a section about each ship, photographs of the ship afloat and underwater, a short history of the ship and its loss as well as information about how to find the wreck site. The book will also include 3D sonar images of many of the bigger vessels to give the reader a better idea of what the wreck looks like today. A detailed site plan of each wreck will be included so divers visiting the site can more easily understand which part is which.

Along with the new book we plan to make waterproof guides for some of these wrecks that divers can take with them when they visit a site. The guide will include a site plan with labels highlighting important features, a brief history of the ship as well as other diving related information.

Some of the fieldwork done this summer has been taken up with mapping these wrecks so site plans are now available for most of them. Some of the sites, such as the scuttled yacht *Glen Strathallan* and the armed trawler *Abelard,* are have been dived very little in recent times. A new book including stories and site plans may generate some interest for visitors as they are ideal wreck sites for newly trained divers.



FNFL Poulmic*, mined November 1940*

The *Taxiarchos*

One of the aims of the fieldwork this year was to relocate the remains of the 300 ton Greek brig *Taxiarchos*, wrecked in thick fog on Rame Head in 1843 carrying a cargo of bones. The wreck was discovered by Dave Peake in 1982 but had been visited very little since, the site is hard to find and only accessible in very calm weather. We got in touch with Dave and through a combination of his notes and a magnetometer survey we relocated the wreck. The site was photographed by the SHIPS team and a map created for the new dive guide book, including detailed location information for this hard to find site.

SHIPS Finds Database

People have been recovering interesting objects from the sea, rivers and foreshore around Plymouth for many years. Although some of these objects are taken to a museum for identification the majority of them are simply kept by the finder. By tracking down, recording and photographing objects that have been recovered we can learn about the maritime history of the region. Some of the objects that we are shown are very old or very unusual, objects that can tell us new information that cannot be found in history books.

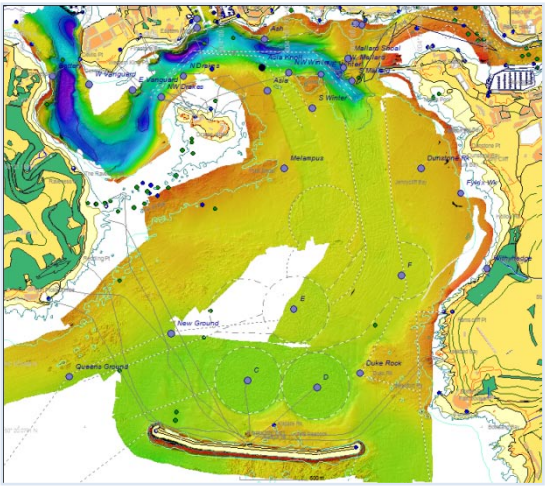
Thirty new finds have been added to our records in 2012 with a wide range of dates and types. Modern items include some decorated clay pipes found underwater in a pile of Victorian rubbish and the helm or steering wheel from the Liberty ship *James Eagan Layne* that was recovered by a diver in the 1960's. Older items include a pewter tankard found partly buried in the seabed off Rame Head and parts of 18th century olive oil jars from two different wreck sites in Plymouth Sound. Older still we have been shown two anchors made of stone, one of typically Mediterranean design, pottery fragments that have been identified as part of an amphora and the upper part of a Late Roman amphora recovered in the 1970s. The amphora will be the subject of a paper to be published by Maria Duggan at the University of Newcastle.

The team have also been collecting information about archaeological objects that have been found in the area on land, and in particular objects that were made before the Normans arrived in England in 1066 A.D. The information about these objects is being put into a GIS, a digital map database, so we can see if any patterns show up that tell us more about the area or about trade in ancient times.

The Paleo-Landscape of Plymouth

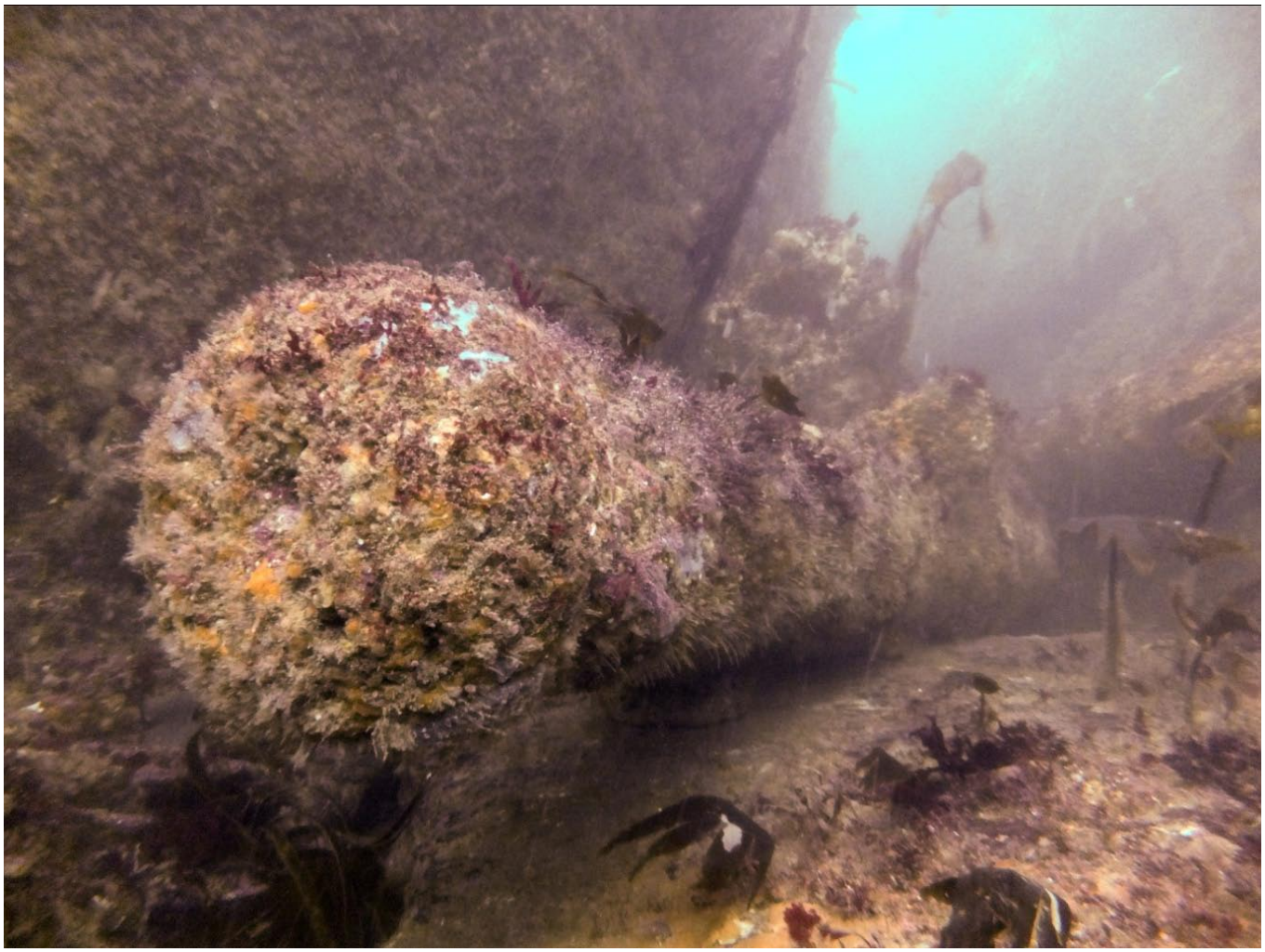
When sea levels were much lower many thousands of years ago, much of Plymouth Sound was dry land. The rivers Tamar and Plym joined together at the north end of Sound then weaved their way south towards the sea around a rock outcrop that is now under Plymouth's Breakwater. When the sea levels rose the lower river valley filled up with sediment, leaving the upper valley clear that now forms the deep Drake Channel running east to west at the northern end of the Sound.

This year we started a project to create a 3D computer model of Plymouth Sound and the surrounding area that can be used to visualise how Plymouth looked at different times in the past. Data is already available that shows the shape of the land as it is now, this will be combined with data from old maps to work out the original shape of the hills and valleys. Multibeam sonar has been used to make a 3D map of the current seabed and shallow seismic surveys were used to detect and map the old, buried river valleys. Adding to data collected in previous years, only a small area within the Sound still needs to be mapped and it is hoped that this will be done in 2013.



Figures from top: Taxiarchos *anchor, late Roman amphora, multibeam seabed bathymetry in Plymouth Sound*

Mewstone Ledge Project



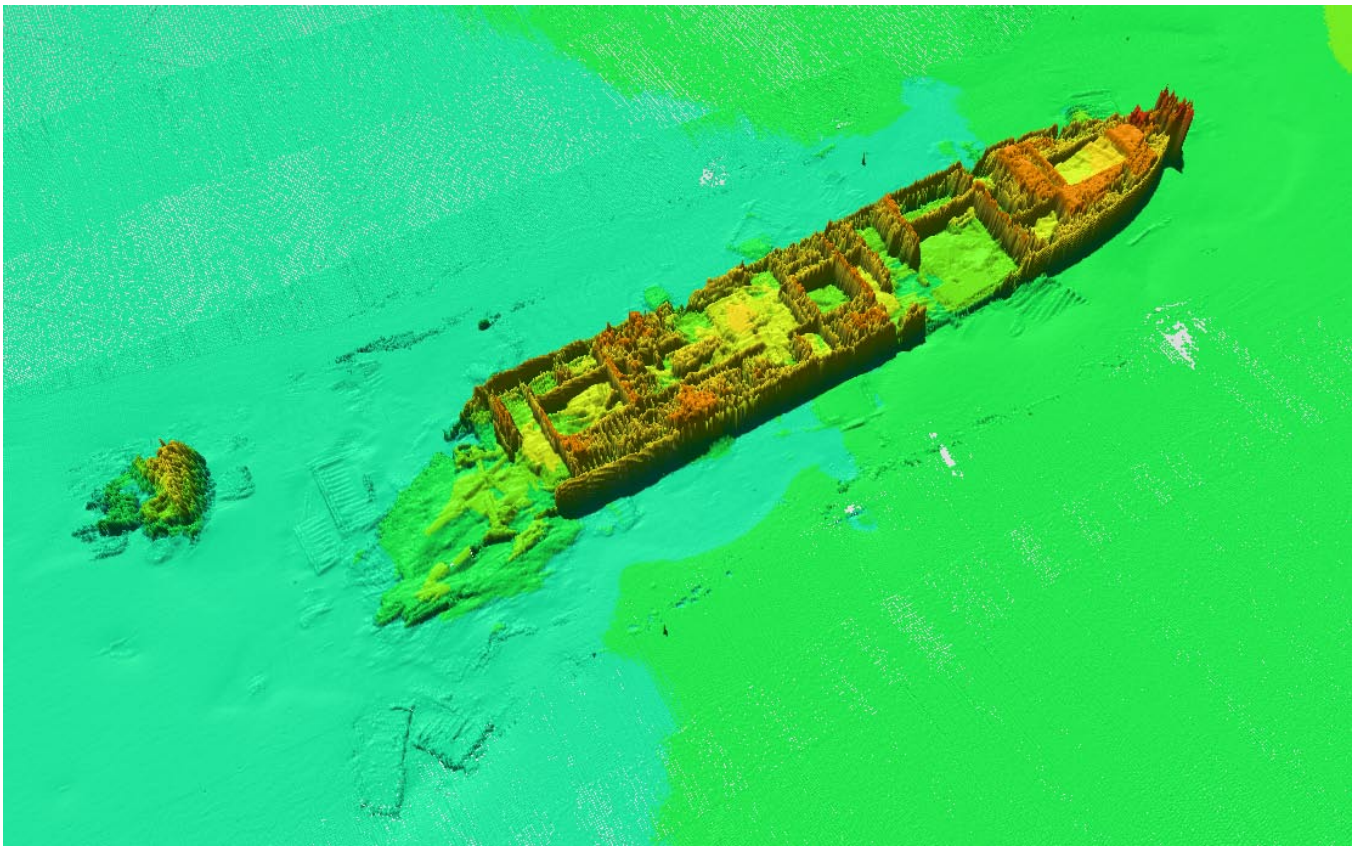
Under the Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS) Adopt-a-Wreck scheme the Plymouth Diving Centre (PDC) have adopted the Mewstone Ledge site and the wreck of the paddle steamer *Totnes Castle*. The Mewstone site was discovered in 1968 and was the subject of a detailed archaeological investigation in August 1969 which produced a detailed report about the site and the guns, anchors and pottery to be found there.

Since then the site has been visited only occasionally and has been largely forgotten, until Allen Murray and divers from Totnes BSAC decided to relocate the site this year with the help of the SHIPS team.

The PDC club have now adopted the site and will spend time investigating it in 2013. By combining the work of the teams, most of the guns and anchors on the site have been found, along with some new objects not found on the original survey. To help with the project the SHIPS team and Plymouth University recently completed a side scan sonar and magnetometer survey of the area around the site. This will be used as the starting point for a renewed search of the site by the PDC team which will result in a new and updated site plan as well as a diver trail to help guide visiting divers.

Top: Gun 1 on the Mewstone Ledge site
Left: Part of an olive oil jar showing the manufacturer's mark 'IF'

The Liberty 70 Project



The Liberty 70 Project is a study of the life and loss of the Liberty ship S.S. *James Eagan Layne*, beached in Whitsand Bay near Plymouth in 1945 and one of the most dived shipwrecks in the world.

A conference in Baltimore, USA, in January gave us the opportunity to visit the S.S. *John W. Brown*, one of the two surviving Liberty ships still left afloat. We wanted to take photographs of the ship, in particular the parts of the vessel that still survive on the *Layne* so we can compare them, which meant that we needed to get into the deeper and less accessible parts of the hull. Fortunately our very knowledgeable guide, Mike Schneider, allowed us access to all the places we wanted to see so we now have a fine set of photographs to compare with 'our' Liberty ship.

January also included a trip to South Africa where, thanks to Jon Sharfman at SAHRA, we were able to visit the remains of the Liberty ship S.S. *Thomas T Tucker* ashore on the beach near Cape Town. This foreshore wreck is battered by waves on a sandy beach, very different conditions to the 20m depth of water in which the *Layne* lies, so it was interesting to see which parts of the wreck on the beach have survived.

Mike Millman, a photographic journalist and historian, got in touch as he had done some research on the loss of the *James Eagan Layne* in the 1970s and had made a

Top: 3D multibeam sonar image of the ship
Bottom: The James Eagan Layne *being launched in 1944*

television programme about it. Mike came to see us and brought a copy of his research which included a number of unusual documents that we had not found in our searches of the archives.

This year, a joint project with Swathe Services in Truro allowed us to see a detailed model of the *James Eagan Layne* in 3D for the first time. James Williams at Swathe and Jesper Højedal at R2Sonic used the new high

frequency version of the R2Sonic 2024 multibeam sonar and a HYDRINS motion sensor from iXBlue to make a 3D map of the site. The results of the sonar survey have been used to create a detailed plan of the wreck, something that would take many weeks to do using conventional survey methods.

In April Mallory Haas attended a 90th birthday party in New Orleans for Mildred Aupied, one of the lady welders who built the *Layne* in 1944 and someone who Mallory had tracked down last year during research on the ship.

The birthday was a big event with over 400 people attending as well as reporters and TV crews there to cover the festivities. Also at the event was Wally Layne, son of the merchant seaman James Eagan Layne. Mallory gave a speech about the Liberty 70 Project and presented both Mildred and Wally with framed drawings of the ship as a token of our thanks for their help with this project.

NAS Adopt-a-Wreck Scheme

We are keen to involve sports diving clubs in the work we do and a good way to do this is to get the club to 'adopt' a wreck under the Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS) Adopt-a-Wreck scheme. Once adopted, the club research the history of the ship then record and identify individual parts of the wreck using a combination of photographs and sketching.

The Aquanauts dive club adopted the steam yacht *Glen Strathallan* in 2011, the *Glen* lies in 17m water by the Shagstone on the east side of Plymouth Sound. The team have researched the history of the ship, presenting the results of their work to the club, and with the help of the SHIPS team have added to the plan of the site. The Science Museum in London took possession of the yacht's engine before she was scuttled and an enquiry to them turned up a folder full of papers relating to the ship and its history. These papers have now been copied and have been included in the team's research archive about the ship.

Our own adopted wreck, the Free French minesweeper *Poulmic*, was dived by the SHIPS team many times this year. It had been suggested that there were two vessels in the area of the *Poulmic* but our searches turned up yet another so now we have located the bows from three different ships. The site is well scattered with the real bows of the Poulmic more than 50m from the main part of the wreck with parts of other shipwrecks lying in between, so it has taken some time to create a site plan that covers the area. More work will be done next year on this site to see if we can identify what the other two wrecks are.

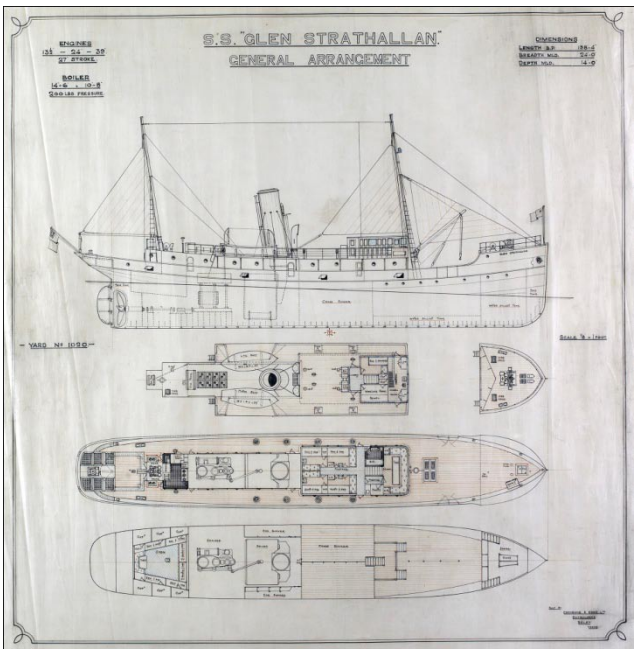
More work was done this year by Totnes BSAC on the wreck of the WW1 steam collier S.S. *Rosehill*, torpedoed and sunk in Whitsand Bay in October 1917. Unusually good underwater visibility earlier in the year allowed the team to add more to the plan of this large wreck site that they are putting together.

The Danish Brigantine *Die Frau Metta Catharina von Flensburg* was wrecked in the Barn Pool in 1786. Found by divers from Plymouth Sound BSAC diving club, their investigation of the wreck site between 1973 and 2006 produced a wealth of material and information. A successful Heritage Lottery bid supported by the SHIPS Project has enabled a museum display to be set up in Mount Edgcumbe House that will be open to the public in the spring of 2013.

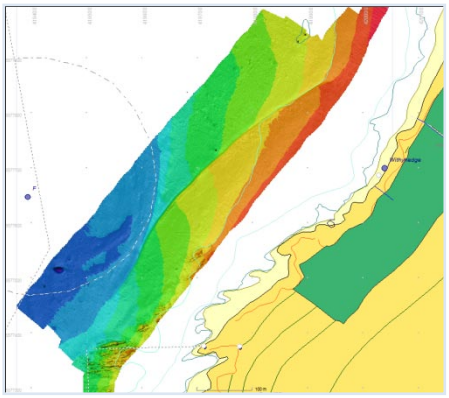
Nautical Archaeology Society

NAS Adopted Wrecks near Plymouth:

Metta Catharina	Plymouth Sound BSAC
Rosehill	Totnes SAC
Glen Strathallan	Aquanauts, Plymouth
Oregon	Aquanauts, Plymouth
Poulmic	The SHIPS Project
Elk	BSAC25, Birmingham
James Eagan Layne	BATSAC BSAC2370
Mewstone Ledge	Plymouth Diving Centre
Totnes Castle	Plymouth Diving Centre
HM Submarine A7	Mark Pearce



The Jennycliff Wall Project



During a search in Jennycliff Bay for a submerged forest seen by divers some years ago, we investigated a boulder wall originally thought to be part of a submerged river channel. Further dives suggested that the 2m high and 270m long wall of boulders was possibly man made and required further investigation. In August wall was mapped with very high quality side scan sonar and multibeam sonar with the help of Swathe Services Ltd. and Sonardyne International Ltd. In November a sub-bottom profiler survey was completed with the help of Gwyn Jones and the Hydrography students at Plymouth University using a GeoPulse Plus SBP loaned to us by Kongsberg GeoAcoustics Ltd. In 2013 we plan to excavate parts of the rock wall to see if we can find out how it was constructed and why it was built.

The Tamar Discovery Programme Foreshore Project

The Thames Discovery Programme (TDP) is a very successful project where the local community is involved in finding, recording and mapping archaeological remains to be found on the foreshore of the river Thames. We have teamed up with the TDP team and are proposing to run a similar project on the foreshore of Plymouth Sound and its many rivers. Two of the TDP team, Eliott Wragg and Mike Webber came to visit us in April to discuss ideas so we are now in the process of putting a funding bid together for a large 3-year project.

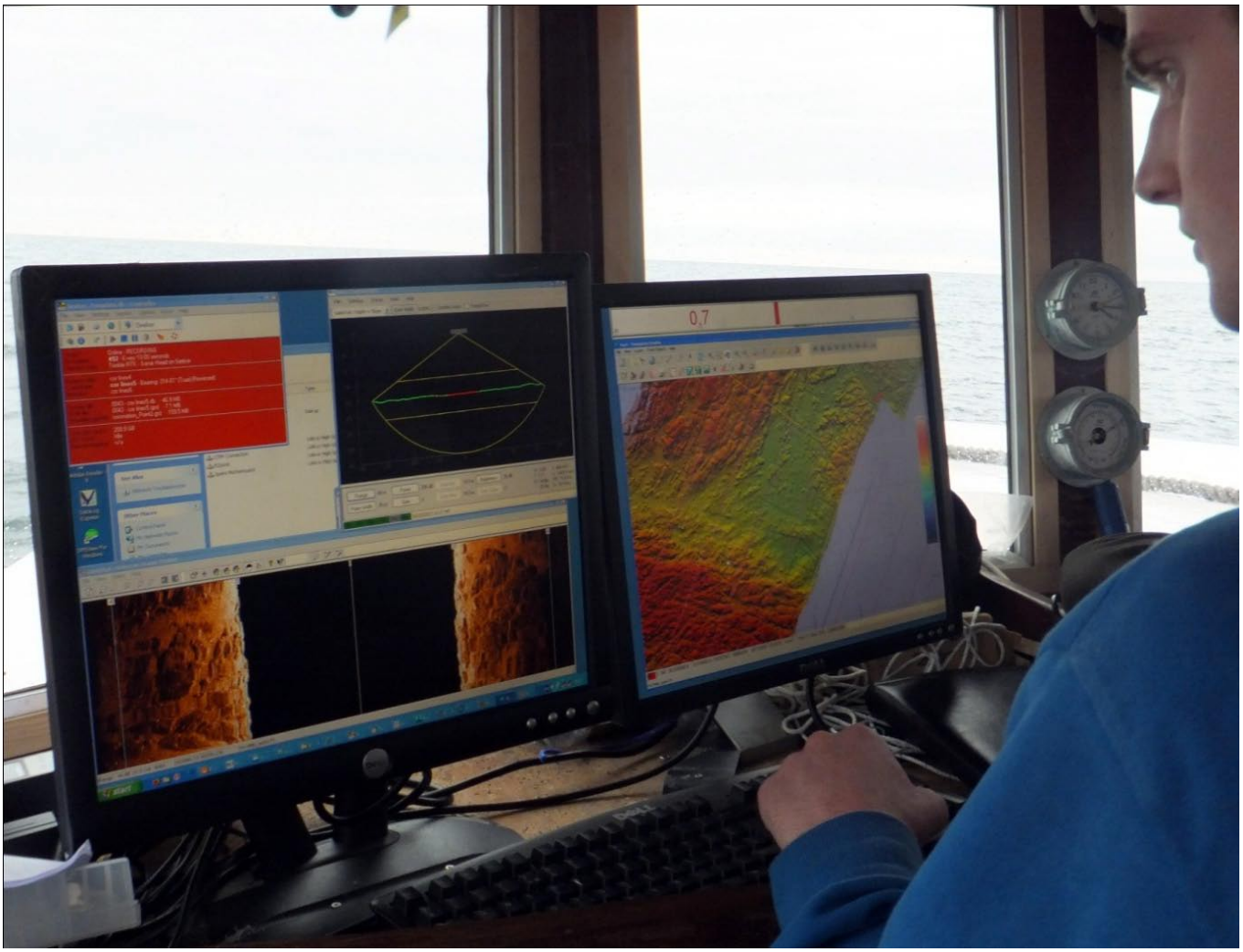
Fieldwork

Diving

This has been our first full year of diving fieldwork and it turned out to be very successful despite the poor weather over the summer. Our dive team included 21 regular volunteer divers who clocked up 127 dives with a total of 4383 minutes or 73 hours underwater. A total of 33 targets were investigated by the dive team with 13 more investigated by ROV. Site plans were completed for five of the regularly visited wreck sites and the plans have been started on three others, these will be included in our new book about the shipwrecks around Plymouth . Many other dives were also done by the clubs and societies that are working with us on Adopted wrecks and other related projects.

Some of the diving done by the team involved experiments with different methods of seabed searches, marking sites, surveying and mapping. The results of these experiments have identified simple or effective methods and have been used to create good practice guidance notes for dive teams working with the SHIPS Project team.

Geophysical Surveys



Multibeam echo sounder survey of the Coronation *site by Swathe Services and R2 Sonic*

Marine geophysical surveys contribute a huge amount to what we know about Plymouth Sound and its estuaries and our successful collaboration with Plymouth University continued in 2012.

In March we completed side scan sonar and magnetometer surveys south of Drakes Island, off the eastern spoil ground outside the Sound and over the minesweeper *Poulmic*. Working with James Williams at Swathe Services we did high resolution multibeam surveys of the *James Eagan Layne*, *Scylla*, *Glen Strathallan* and *Coronation* wreck sites, which was the first use on a wreck of the new high frequency sonar from R2Sonic. March also saw us doing a land survey at Okeltor Quay near Calstock as part of the Roman River Crossing Project. In April we surveyed the Tamar at Calstock using side scan sonar and sub-bottom profiler with the help of Kevin Camidge from CISMAS, followed up with a sub-bottom profiler survey of the Cattewater wreck with the help of Steve Roue from Falmouth Divers. In May and July we undertook a side scan sonar and magnetometer survey of the *Coronation* site with CISMAS and MAST. Work in August included high resolution multibeam survey of the Jennycliff Wall by Swathe Services and a very high resolution side scan sonar survey of the wall by Sonardyne using their new Solstice side scan sonar.

The new academic year brought more fieldwork opportunities with Gwyn Jones and the hydrography students of Plymouth University. We completed surveys of Anchorage E, the Mewstone Ledge, south of the Draystone and off the Dockyard in the river Tamar. We also extended the area surveyed last year in Cawsand Bay and further extended the survey of the *Coronation* site to the south. The results of the work at Calstock formed part of Jack Poleykett's MSc dissertation and other surveys were also included in student dissertations listed below.

Targets identified during surveys of the *Coronation* site have been passed to the Coronation Project Team for their divers to investigate.

Research and University Dissertations

As with previous years we had a number of undergraduate and postgraduate students undertaking research and project work for us which they then submitted as a dissertation:

Name	Course	Title
Charlie Alexander	BSc Environmental Science	A Study into Marine Biofouling and Degradation on Anthropogenic Substrate within the Marine Environment
Jack Poleykett	MSc Environmental Consultancy	Tamar River, Calstock: Investigating the bottom environments and sediment dynamics of an intertidal mud flat
Ryan Swift	MSc Environmental Consultancy	Sediment changes in Whitsand Bay
Simon Gibbs	MSc Hydrography	Politics and Geophysical Survey: An Investigation of Marine Resource Development and Marine Archaeological Conservation
Maeve Roberts	MSc Hydrography	The Loss of HMS *Foyle*: An Investigation into her Sinking, Salvage and Site Management
Rob Spencer	MSc Hydrography	Paleolandscapes of Plymouth Sound
Owen Thomas	MSc Hydrography	A Bathymetric, Side Scan and Magnetometer Survey of the Wreck of the *Poulmic*
Ben Elliott	BSc Ocean Exploration	A study into the spatial distribution of fluvial and marine sediment within Plymouth Sound using Side-Scan Sonar
Matthew Taylor	MSc Hydrography	Analysis of archived data, in comparing and highlighting the effectiveness of side scan and multibeam sonar in the search for Royal Navy vessel HMS *Fearless*
Charles Addison	MSc Hydrography	A Comparison of Towfish Position Predictive methods
Brian O'Beirn	MSc Hydrography	An Investigation of Sedimentation at the Site of a Dredged Area (Tamar Estuary)
Panagiotis Gkionis	MSc Hydrography	The GE.N.ESIS Project
James Williams	MSc Hydrography	High Resolution Geophysical Surveying Swathe Bathymetry Performance for Mapping Underwater Archaeological Sites

Training

Part of our work involves running training courses under the Nautical Archaeology Society training scheme. We run courses for the dive clubs and groups that we support as well as public courses in both basic training and in advanced speciality subjects.

In March we ran NAS Introduction and Part 1 courses at the ProMare office as well as another Introduction course for the Aquanauts team at their dive centre. In April we were involved in five days training for the Bristol University students taking an MA in Maritime Archaeology and History. In September we ran an Introduction course for the team at Mount Edgcumbe House as part of the Catharina Museum Heritage Lottery project. Advanced courses were run at the ProMare office in Finds Illustration, Survey Management and Archaeology Project Management.

Outreach

The SHIPS Project web site is our main means of providing information to the public about the history of Plymouth and about the project itself. The site was getting too large to navigate around easily so this year it was remodelled to include menus on each page, redesigned main pages and a better search capability. We have also added to the number of wreck histories on the site, we have added more finds from Plymouth and have created new pages providing advice for the teams who work with us.

We have presented papers and been invited to do a number of talks this year. We provided a summary of last season's work at the International Shipwreck Conference in February which provided a good opportunity to recruit more volunteers. A talk on Marine Geophysics and Archaeology was given to the Hydrographic Society and a presentation on the Mewstone Ledge was given to the Plymouth Diving Centre. The Plymouth Sound BSAC Diving Club invited us to give talks on both the Liberty 70 Project and the SHIPS Project while we also provided the after dinner speech at the Oxford University Underwater Explorers Group annual dinner. The highlight was a one-day seminar held at Mount Edgcumbe House for the South West Maritime History Society where a number of the ProMare team gave talks on aspects of maritime archaeology.

ProMare are represented on the Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS) executive committee and are currently helping to revamp the training scheme. As well as sponsoring all of the NAS courses run in Plymouth, our support for the NAS Adopt-a-Wreck Project added more shipwrecks this year to the list of those already adopted. We are also represented on the IMASS committee and help run the annual International Shipwreck Conference.

In July we helped out at a public Seashore and Finds day at Mount Edgcumbe house. We brought along some pottery and other objects that had been found in Plymouth Sound and laid it out on a table where the public could look at it, pick it up and ask questions. We usually get new stories about things that have been found around Plymouth and this day was no exception, providing more leads about things we need to investigate.

SHIPS Project Supporters

Many people and organisations have helped the SHIPS Project in 2012, giving their time, their advice, loaning us equipment or providing services. Our thanks go to all the people who have helped the project.

A huge amount of work was done by our volunteer interns who joined us in the spring and over the summer. Jack Poleykett worked closely with us on the Calstock Roman River Crossing Project while Stew Wareing from Bristol University, Sophie Winton on loan from SAHRA and Richard Rowley joined us for three months in the summer, joined later on by Matt Taylor from the University of Oxford.

Our regular local volunteer divers Peter Bernardes, Steve Fletcher and Derek Palmer were joined by Allen Murray, Dave Peake, David Cormack, Giles Richardson and Sarah Goss for a summer spent investigating targets, searching the seabed, mapping, sketching and photographing.

Oxford University Underwater Explorers Group loaned us their dive boat this year and Plymouth Yacht Haven gave us a discount on the price of mooring it alongside in their marina. Aquanauts provided a huge discount on the cost of air fills over the summer so we are grateful to Noeleen, Brian, Doug and their team for their support.

The Adopt-a-Wreck dive team at Aquanauts was led by John Mellor and the team at the Plymouth Diving Centre by Lisa McLernon. Mike Williams has helped us on many occasions with training courses and has provided invaluable advice on legal matters. Kevin Camidge at CISMAS gave us welcome advice, support and the loan of a side scan sonar. Again this year Mallory Haas in Ohio has continued her research into the Liberty ship *James Eagan Layne* for the Liberty 70 Project, Peter McBride has provided wreck information and Adam Bush has researched other wrecks we are investigating.

Our links with Plymouth University are still strong, providing us with the opportunity to guide student projects and providing the students with something interesting to research. Gwyn Jones and Janet Burroughes have provided us with equipment and fieldwork opportunities while Professor Steve Hill has provided support, advice about environmental issues and the occasional rock sample identification.

James Williams at Swathe Services Ltd. and Jesper Høejdal at R2Sonic LLC provided high resolution multibeam surveys on a number of shipwrecks in the area. The Solstice team at Sonardyne International Ltd. provided detailed side scan sonar images of the Jennycliff Wall so our thanks go to Graham Brown, Andy Palmer, Rob Crook and David Wrobel. Steve Diven at Kongsberg GeoAcoustics Ltd. provided us with a GeoPulse Plus sub-bottom profiler that we used to investigate a number of wreck and landscape sites.

For the Calstock Roman River Crossing Project we were helped by David Lane at Okeltor who gave us advice, access to his garden and his trust. Our thanks also go to Jo Davies and Nikki Chaplin from the Calstock Archive. Our thanks also go to Jon Sharfman, Dave Thompson, Mike Millman, Adrian Campbell and Joe Tidball for the help they have given us this year.

For the Liberty 70 Project, Mike Schneider and the crew of the S.S. *John W. Brown* provided information and a guided tour around one of the last surviving Liberty ships.

Get Involved

The SHIPS Project is a community enterprise that involves lots of enthusiastic volunteers and interns working alongside the ProMare team. There are many opportunities for helping the SHIPS Project, from diving and fieldwork to helping with research:

Getting involved with Finds

- Do you have any objects recovered from the sea around Plymouth?

We are interested in recording and photographing any finds recovered from the sea to add to our knowledge about the history of the area. The finds can be recorded by our volunteers or alternatively we can send you instructions on how you can record and photograph them yourself.

Getting involved with Photos and Video

- Do you have any photos or video of shipwrecks around Plymouth?

The shipwrecks around Plymouth have been visited by divers since the early days of sports diving so there should be thousands of photographs along with miles of film and video of these ships. We would like to obtain copies of photographs, film or video you have to add to our archive so we can see how these wrecks have changed.

Getting involved with Stories

- Was the *James Eagan Layne* your first wreck dive?

Did you have a particularly great dive on one of the Plymouth wreck sites? We would like to hear about your memorable or funny stories of visits to these wrecks, or tales of diving them in the early days.

Getting involved with Fieldwork

- Can you help with surveys of the wrecks in the area?

One objective of this project is to create detailed maps of the shipwrecks around Plymouth. This work will be done using a combination of high-tech geophysical surveys backed up with identification and detailed recording by divers. The minimum dive qualification to be involved is BSAC Sports Diver, PADI Advanced Open Water or the equivalent from another organisation.

Getting involved with Research

- Can you help with researching the history of the ship and aircraft wrecks around Plymouth?

Diving and fieldwork are only a very small part of this project as a large part is conc erned with researching the history of these ships. Research work is being undertaken in archives and libraries by our volunteers with the assistance of the SHIPS Project team.

Please get in touch if you would like to get involved:

Email: info@promare.org
Web: www.promare.co.uk/ships
Facebook: Find the SHIPS Project on facebook

HYDROGRAPHY WITH PLYMOUTH UNIVERSITY

University of BRISTOL

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

CISMAS

aquanauts DIVECENTRE

swathe-services.com hydrographic surveyors

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