



Economic and Social Impact of Dockyard & Shipyard Closures & Heritage Renewal: Lessons to be Learned

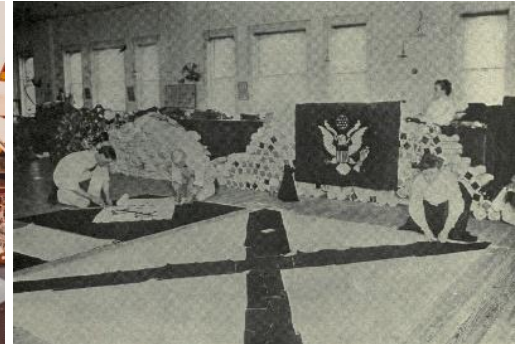


Naval Dockyards Society 27th Annual Conference (in-person & online)

National Maritime Museum Greenwich Saturday 22 April 2023 11.00–4.30

REGISTRATION & REFRESHMENTS 9.30–11.00 CONFERENCE 11–4.30 LUNCH 1.15–2.15

This Conference is sponsored by the Society for Nautical Research



What are the social and economic effects of dockyard or shipyard closures on their communities – anywhere in the world? Are closure outcomes always negative, or can communities benefit from renewal? Speakers will analyse globally diverse post-closure routes.

The NDS is concerned with private shipbuilders as well as naval dockyards because these built many of the ships that dockyards fitted out and maintained and were located nearby. Personnel often worked for both at different times (at the same time in the 17th century!)

Johnman and Murphy contended: 'Unemployment eroded national competitiveness, produced localised misery and was wasteful of state resources.' (Effects of Interwar Depression on Clydeside, *International Journal of Maritime History*, 18:1, 2006, 233)

In 1945 the Royal Navy operated 800 vessels, by 1982 only 59 surface ships. In 1981 Defence Secretary Nott decreed losses of up to 20,000 civilian defence employees. Portsmouth MP Bonner-Pink replied: 'the reduction at Portsmouth and the closing of Chatham will have severe repercussions in the neighbourhoods of both ports', while Gillingham MP Burden stated: 'about 9,000 men and women employed in the dockyard will now cease work two or three years hence.' (<https://tinyurl.com/3as89nsw>, cc388, 393, 397, 399).

Professor Hugh Murphy will deliver a headline paper: The Economic and Social Effects of a Shipyard Closure: Scott Lithgow at Greenock and Port Glasgow, Scotland, 1970–1990

This paper analyses the economic and social effects of the closure of the Scott Lithgow shipyards in the Lower Clyde Burghs of Greenock and Port Glasgow from 1970 when the two firms merged through nationalisation under the British Shipbuilders Corporation in July 1977 and its placement in the Corporation's newly formed Offshore Division in 1980. It continues from re-privatisation in March 1984 to eventual closure in 1990.

Professor Hugh Murphy (University of Glasgow) has authored several books and articles on the British shipbuilding industry. He has held Junior and Senior Caird Fellowships at the National Maritime Museum and is (since 2005) their Visiting Reader in Maritime History. A former Hon. Editor of *The Mariner's Mirror*, the international quarterly journal of the Society for Nautical Research (2005–13), he is also Series Editor of *Research in Maritime History* at Liverpool University Press. His latest book is *Shipbuilding in the United Kingdom. A History of the British Shipbuilders Corporation* (Routledge, London, 2021).

Images: Chatham Dockyard Pay Office (A Coats 2019); Chatham Navy Day c.1977 Rob Mitchell, [Creative Commons CC0 1.0 Universal Public Domain Dedication](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/); Brooklyn Navy Yard, Making Flags for the U. S. Battleships, Lillian E. Zeh, 1914, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons.

BOOKING FORM

<https://navaldockyards.org/conferences/> <https://navaldockyards.org/>

Twitter: @DockyardSociety Facebook: NavalDockyardsSociety
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1443502952760615>

Member price applies to NDS, SNR, SNR(S) members

Conference fee includes teas & coffees and a sandwich buffet lunch

Purchasing NDS membership for a year will give you the member price plus two journal Transactions and two Dockyards newsletters. Full-time students applying from a university email address can join the NDS for £10.00.

UPDATES see <https://navaldockyards.org/conferences/>

QUERIES: contact Dr Ann Coats avcoatsndschair@gmail.com

National Maritime Museum, Romney Road, Greenwich SE10 9NF

<http://www.rmg.co.uk/national-maritime-museum/> **There is no museum parking**

National Rail 08457 484950 <http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/>

Transport for London: 0343 222 1234 <https://www.tfl.gov.uk/>

Please complete and return one form per delegate to Treasurer David Jenkins, 5 Beeby Way, Carlton, Bedfordshire, MK43 7LW, UK to arrive by post or email by:

BOOKING DEADLINE 11 APRIL to give NMM caterers notice of numbers.

BACS: Name Naval Dockyards Society, Sort Code 60-09-16, Account No.

51358719; **PayPal:** Go to the website and ask to send money. Enter email:

ndstreasurer@hotmail.co.uk & amount; Payee Reference: NDS CONFERENCE 2023 A/B/C/D, click OK; and email your details to the Treasurer.

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NDS 2023 in-person & online conference:

Economic and Social Impact of Dockyard & Shipyard Closures & Heritage Renewal

- I am booking a NDS 2023 Conference place by selecting my choice below.
- I am making a non-refundable payment: BACS/PayPal/cheque to *Naval Dockyards Society* of £.....
- 'Member' or 'Non-member' column (definitions above)

	Event category	£ Member	£ Non-member
A	In-person Conference & lunch	30.00	40.00
B	Online Conference	15.00	20.00
C	FT Student with a university email address	FREE	
D	Membership of Naval Dockyards Society for one year: Individual 25.00; Couple at same address £33.00; FT university student £10.00	----	

If In-person, please confirm/delete as required: **I am/not disabled / have a medical problem of which NDS should be aware (specify):**

State any dietary requirements:

Name, address, telephone, email, date: