



SCANNER

NEWSLETTER of the SOLENT MARITIME SOCIETY

No. 674

September 2025

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Society Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100088504665729>

Future Meetings;

October 28th - Guest Speaker: Peter Lamb - No more for the Skylark!

November 25th - Mike Lennon - Eastern Mediterranean Shipping.

December 16th - A.G.M & Andy Skarstein - Solent Shipping Review 2025.

2026

January 27th - Martyn Davies - Continued views from the Ferry.

February 23rd - Mervyn Rowlinson - life of U-Boat Commander, Julius Fritz Lemp.

March 31st - *Members Evening; Alternative Transport, Trains, Planes & More!*

April 28th - Richard Jolliffe - Hamburg and the Elbe.

May 28th - Chris Dorman - TBC.

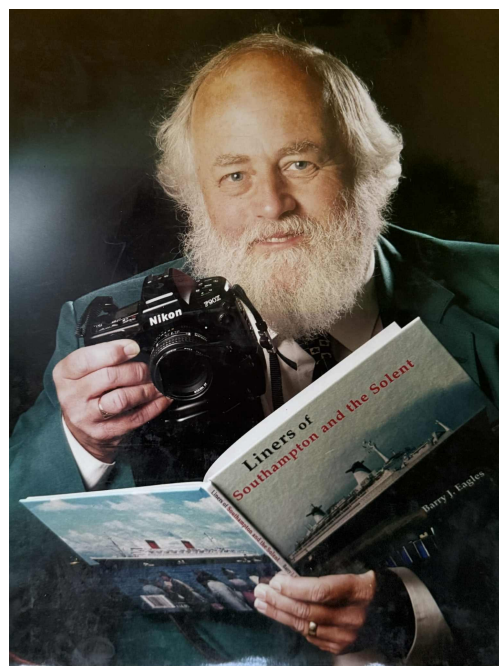
June 30th - *Members Evening; Red Funnel, evening cruise departure 18.00pm.*

Obituary: Barry J. Eagles - 1945-2025

It is with great sadness to announce the sad passing of our Chairman Barry J. Eagles. He has been a member of SMS for some time and has been Chairman for over a decade. For many years now, Barry has not enjoyed the best of health and his wife Carol has accompanied him to many of his organisations. Barry was well known in both Shipping and Railway circles for his excellent photography and cine film of trains, ships ferries and the docks, since the mid 1950s. Many of his films have been used by broadcasters when covering those topics. Being a Southampton lad, the Southern Region was his main subject matter and has written a few books over the years most notably; *Liners of Southampton and the Solent* and *Eastleigh, Steam Centre of the South Western* as well as a few others.

Barry was also a very active member of The SS Shieldhall steamship preservation group, as well as many many other organisations, societies and clubs, all to do with transportation. A visit to Barry's home was a like visiting a museum with railway and shipping artefacts in every room, apart from the kitchen! As well as an extensive collection of slides, film, photos, postcards and much more!

When not behind the camera or pursuing railway and shipping interests, Barry was an active and well respected Freemason. He was a past master of Oceanus Lodge in Southampton as well as Merdon Lodge in Hursley. Barry leaves behind his wife Carol, 2 children and grand children.



SOCIETY NEWS

OCTOBER - Some of you may know **Peter Lamb** who is our guest speaker in October. Peter was born in Shirley, and has always been a dock and ship enthusiast. He joined the PADDLE STEAMER PRESERVATION SOCIETY in 1960 and is still a member. As well as being the current President of the COASTAL CRUISING ASSOCIATION. Peter worked in the Eastern Docks for Elders and Fyffes, bananas and travelled a lot on their behalf eventually moving to Surrey for 20 years. But he always had a passion of operating pleasure boats and when Richard Bolson, at Bournemouth, called to let him know he planned to retire he took the bait. Peter headed a small consortium who purchased and operated three pleasure boats including the BOURNEMOUTH BELLE, from Bournemouth, until his retirement in 2010. He joined Solent Maritime at its formation and met with Bert and Alma Moody via a family friend, Eileen Pritchard (also a SMS founder member). He stopped attending when he found the evening winter travel from Bournemouth a challenge. However he still has a keen interest in ships and the docks. He now spends much of my spare time undertaking maritime research on behalf of POOLE MARITIME TRUST where he is the curator of the archives. This is a fitting way to celebrate our 55th anniversary by having an original member to be our guest! His talk '*No more for the Skylark*' will be an interesting talk on local pleasure crafts around the Solent area.

NEW MEMBERS! - Please give a warm welcome to our new members **David Trevor-Jones** who rejoined at the end of August, and to newest member **Robert 'Bob' Downing**, also joining in August.

YOUTUBE LINKS - Our member **Phil Kempsey** has been busy uploading to his new YouTube Channel. If you haven't seen it yet, it's definitely worth a visit, with several videos already on it of shipping times past in Southampton and the Solent area. There's also a video tribute to Allan RO from his time on trips in Terneuzen.

The URL for Phil's account: <https://www.youtube.com/@phil.kempsey2277>

SMS Allan R-O Memories 2010: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mIhWGSnTsDk>



CAROLINE - Arrived 31 berth from Le Trait on River Seine to load yachts.

Photo: David Hornsby.

SOLENT SHIPPING NEWS - SEPTEMBER

- Williams Shipping christened its latest vessel, **WILLDISCOVER**, at Southampton's Shamrock Quay on the 10th September, honouring a historic tradition for the family firm. The ceremony saw more than 100 guests, including partners, clients, colleagues and friends, gather in celebration. Commissioned from Dutch shipbuilder Neptune Marine, WILLDISCOVER is a multi-purpose vessel incorporating modern marine technology. The ship was blessed by port chaplain Kate Powell, before Anna Williams, daughter of logistics director Jonathan Williams and granddaughter of chairman Eric Williams, was given the honour of naming WILLDISCOVER and breaking a champagne bottle against her hull for good fortune. Guests then enjoyed a lunch and drinks reception aboard Blue Funnel's OCEAN SCENE.
- France's **CMA CGM** has moved to strengthen its European intermodal offering with the acquisition of Freightliner UK Intermodal Logistics, one of Britain's largest rail freight operators. The deal covers Freightliner's rail and road operations, inland terminals and the Freightliner brand itself. The acquisition is expected to close in early 2026, subject to regulatory approvals. Other Freightliner operations in continental Europe – Heavy Haul, Rotterdam Rail Feeding, and activities in Poland and Germany – will remain under existing ownership. Freightliner UK will continue as a multi-user, multi-customer business, run independently by its current teams, while gaining access to CMA CGM's global logistics and shipping network, the French liner giant said. For CMA CGM, the move underlines its strategy to expand sustainable and competitive transport options in Europe. By pairing maritime strength with inland rail capability, the French shipping group said it aims to push further into end-to-end logistics solutions. "Acquiring Freightliner strengthens our intermodal presence in the United Kingdom, a strategic market for CMA CGM," said Rodolphe Saadé, chairman and CEO, adding: "It allows us to connect sea, rail and road more efficiently, delivering better solutions for our customers while expanding lower-carbon transport options."
- **RED FUNNEL** has been sold! Jakob Kjellberg, Founding Partner at Njord Partners, commented: "Red Funnel is a vital part of the Isle of Wight's economy and community—a true backbone of the Solent and South UK region. This is a great company with a proud history and a dedicated management team at its core. "We are excited to support Red Funnel's next chapter, restoring its financial health and empowering its people to deliver the reliable, efficient service that islanders and visitors deserve." Njord Partners describes itself as a UK-based investment firm that "helps businesses grow and succeed, especially during times of change." Fran Collins, CEO at Red Funnel, said: "Our priority is to ensure Red Funnel operates sustainably and responsibly for decades to come, delivering high-quality, reliable services across the Solent."



WILLDISCOVER - the brand newly delivered for Williams Shipping.

Photo: Richard Jolliffe.



BRIGHTON - Zodiac Maritime operated - inward bound on the Solent on the 25th. Photo: Chris Brooks.



EVRIDIKI G - rather rusty! outbound on the 6th, departed SCT 2/3, bound for Antwerp. Photo: Chris Brooks.



SC HOUSTON - inward for SCT 3/4 berth having arrived from Rotterdam. Photo: Chris Brooks.

CRUISE SHIP NEWS - SEPTEMBER

- **BRILLIANT LADY** - entered Portsmouth harbour on the 18th-21st August for its maiden arrival. In port for 4 days covering press tours and travel agents. When she docked Portsmouth became the only port in the world at that time to have had all four ships call in at different stages.
- **OCEANIA CRUISES** - announced on the 11th August all ships of the fleet will now use the 'OCEANIA' prefix. It is unclear when this will take place, but be ready to update your notebooks on these changes. Currently VISTA, MARINA, have been using Southampton this year, but more ships of the fleet will be arriving next year, including the INSIGNIA (originally built as R-ONE, the first of the series to visit Southampton in 1998.) will call in to port. She has been sold along with the SEVEN SEAS NAVIGATOR of Regent Seven Seas another on/off callers to the city, to start up brand, CrescentSeas. This is another residential cruise line and will be the third active residential line in active service after Residence at Sea who operates THE WORLD and Ville Vie Residences owners of the ODYSSEY (Ex Braemar, Fred. Olsen)
- **MARELLA CRUISES** - TUI AG has announced it is swapping its new builds intended for Marella to its main TUI Cruises brand. Announced in March this year, two new builds were announced for Marella (previously Thomson). Neither Thomson or Marella have had new builds of their own so this was big news at the time. However, on the 29th September it was announced by TUI AG, Marella cruises parent company that the two new ships will be built for the TUI Cruises brand. The ships, which will be delivered in 2031 and 2032 respectively, will be sister ships to Mein Schiff Relax and Mein Schiff Flow and part of the InTuition class – and will be powered by dual-fuel engines (LNG and MGO). At 160,000 tons, the vessels will be larger than the ones originally planned for the Marella Cruises configuration and will be built according to the latest environmental standards.

CRUISE LINE IN FOCUS - Virgin Voyages

Initially announced as Virgin Cruises in 2014, the cruise line would consist of two ships and be based in Miami, Florida. Virgin Voyages' official debut had originally been scheduled for April 1, 2020, with the maiden voyage of *Scarlet Lady*, but the COVID-19 pandemic had delayed the cruise line's launch, having had to initially postpone the voyage until August 7, 2020, and ultimately, October 16, 2020. The first sailing with paying guests commenced on August 6, 2021, from Portsmouth.

<i>Ship Name</i>	<i>Built</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>In Service</i>	<i>Notes</i>
SCARLET LADY	2020	108,192	1	20	2,700	277m	(2020-)	Based in Portsmouth for the 2021 season for post Covid cruise.
VALIANT LADY	2021	108,192	1	20	2,700	278m	(2021-)	
RESILIENT LADY	2023	108,232	1	20	2,700	278m	(2023-)	
BRILLIANT LADY	2025	108,232	1	20	2,700	278m	(2025-)	Arrived in Portsmouth 18th August - 21st August 2025 for press and travel agent tours.

(F) Funnels, (S) Speed, (P) Passengers, (L) Length.



DISNEY FANTASY - departing 8th September passing Ryde on a lovely evening!

Photo: Chris Bancroft.

Southampton SEPTEMBER Visitors;

CRUISE SHIP ARRIVALS

DISNEY FANTASY [1, 8, 15, 22, 29], EMERALD PRINCESS [1, 15, 27], INDEPENDENCE OF THE SEAS [1, 10, 19, 22, 29], MEIN SCHIFF 3 [1, 11], AIDA PERLA [2, 15, 29], AURORA [2], ARCADIA [3, 6, 25], SILVER DAWN [3, 15, 27], MARINA [3], REGAL PRINCESS [4, 16, 28], CELEBRITY APEX [6, 13, 27], IONA [6, 13, 20], MSC VIRTUOSA [6, 13, 27], VENTURA [6, 20], QUEEN ANNE [7, 26], NORWEGIAN DAWN [9], QUEEN MARY 2 [10, 14, 26], SILVER SPIRIT [10], BOREALIS [11, 19], BRITANNIA [12, 19], SKY PRINCESS [13], ARVIA [14, 28], **NORWEGIAN JEWEL**** [14], NORWEGIAN PRIMA [14, 28], MSC PREZIOSA [16], BALMORAL [17], NORWEGIAN STAR [29].

Portsmouth SEPTEMBER Visitors;

HEBRIDEAN SKY [5], SCARLET LADY [5, 12], **AZAMARA JOURNEY**** [6], ISLAND SKY [6, 13, 14, 15], SPIRIT OF DISCOVERY [11], VIKING SKY [15], HAMBURG [19], AIDA SOL [23], VIKING SATURN [30].

*****Maiden Call***



ARCADIA - departing 6th September bound for Lisbon. Taken on the TSS Cruise. Photo: Richard Jolliffe.



VENTURA - departing 6th September bound for Funchal. Taken on the TSS Cruise. Photo: Richard Jolliffe.



CELEBRITY APEX - the brand newly delivered for Williams Shipping.

Photo: Chris Brooks.



WAVERLEY - here for the late summer season sailings seen here on the 6th.

Photo: Chris Brooks.



WAVERLEY - on her South Coast trips round the Solent. Seen here at Yarmouth 19th. Photo: Richard Jolliffe.



EX HMS ARGYLL arriving for disposal on tow tug Camperdown 19th September.

Photo: Mike Lennon.



USS WINSTON CHURCHILL - arriving 14th September on a visit to Portsmouth.

Photo: Mike Lennon.



GAS XANADU - LPG tanker arrived on Esso 1 lunchtime on 6th from Amsterdam. Photo: David Hornsby.



COBALT NOVA - finishing discharge having loaded at Rotterdam. Photo: David Hornsby.



SEASHARK - German-flagged oil product tanker at Esso 2, loading for Las Palmas. Photo: David Hornsby.