

June 2008

Elizabeth Blackburn QC is reappointed as a member of the Advisory Committee on Historic Wreck Sites.

Margaret Hodge, the Minister for Culture, announced today that Elizabeth Blackburn QC has been reappointed as a member of the Advisory Committee on Historic Wreck Sites (ACHWS). Her term of appointment will run from 7 July 2008 to 6 July 2012.

Biographical notes

Elizabeth Blackburn QC has been in practice as a specialist advocate and adviser at the Commercial and Admiralty Bar since 1980, and took silk in 1998. Her range of work covers shipping and the international carriage of goods; international trade and associated finance; surety, guarantee and performance bonds, marine insurance, P & I Club issues, marine pollution; collision, salvage and towage disputes; damage to marine engines and marine/off shore installations, fatal maritime accidents, maritime limitation of liability, maritime International Law and Treaty Obligations; conflict of laws and jurisdictional disputes. She is recommended as a Shipping Silk in the Legal 500, and is a Member of the Executive Committee of the British Maritime Law Association. In addition, she is a Fellow of the Society for Advanced Legal Studies, a member of the Commercial Bar Association and the Chair of the London Shipping Law Centre Education Sub-Committee. She is also a Bencher of the Middle Temple. She has not undertaken any political activity in the past five years.

Background

The Advisory Committee was set up to advise Ministers following the passing of the Protection of Wrecks Act 1973. ACHWS members advise Ministers on i) the suitability of wreck sites to be designated for protection on the grounds of historical, archaeological, or artistic interest in accordance with the Protection of Wrecks Act 1973, and ii) the issue of licences for the surveillance and excavation of designated sites by named individuals, and recommends the conditions to be attached to such licences.

ACHWS members give their services on an honorary basis but travel/subsistence and out-of-pocket expenses are paid.

Department for Culture, Media and Sport

This reappointment has been made in accordance with the OCPA Code of Practice. Appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process.