

August 2008

Mr Sean Neeson is appointed Northern Ireland member of the Advisory Committee on National Historic Ships (ACNHS).

Margaret Hodge, the Minister for Culture, announced today that Mr Sean Neeson has been appointed as Northern Ireland member of the ACNHS. His term of appointment will run from 14 July 2008 to 13 July 2011.

Biographical notes

Mr Neeson is an Elected Member of Carrickfergus Borough Council, where he has served a term as Mayor (1993 and 1994). He is a Trustee (Maritime Heritage) of the National Museums of Northern Ireland, and a member of Mid Antrim Museums Service, and of the Carrickfergus Enterprise board. He also represents Northern Ireland on the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities at the Council of Europe. Previously, he represented Northern Ireland on the EU Committee of the Regions.

Background

The Advisory Committee on National Historic Ships acts as i) the primary source of advice i) to the Secretary of State on national historic ship preservation and funding priorities, and ii) to the Heritage Lottery Fund on preservation priorities and individual applications it receives to fund historic ships, and to other public funding bodies. The ACNHS provides leadership and strategic vision across the national historic ships community and wider maritime sector by acting as a focus for advice on aspects of the preservation of historic vessels

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

This appointment 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.