

June 2009

Mike Lewis is appointed a member of the Advisory Committee on National Historic Ships (ACNHS)

Barbara Follett, the Minister for Culture, announced today that Mike Lewis has been appointed as Welsh Member of the Advisory Committee on National Historic Ships. His term of appointment will run from 30 November 2009 to 29 November 2013.

Biographical notes

Mike Lewis is Museums & Heritage Officer with the Newport Museums and Heritage Service, where he is responsible for five sites, a canal interpretation centre, a transporter bridge and interpretation centre, as well as the Newport Medieval Ship Project (2003 to date). Prior to this, he was Keeper of Technology at the Swansea Maritime and Industrial Museum, before becoming its Development Curator (1988 to 2003). He has undertaken no political activity during the past five years.

Background

Following a public consultation in 2003, the Advisory Committee on National Historic Ships was set up to act as the primary source of advice to i) the Secretary of State on national historic ship preservation and funding priorities, and ii) the Heritage Lottery Fund on preservation priorities and individual applications it receives to fund historic ships, and to other public funding bodies.

The Advisory Committee 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. It is responsible for the maintenance and development of the National Register of Historic Vessels and the development and monitoring of an 'At Risk' register.

ACNHS members give their services on an honorary basis. Travelling expenses, incurred by ACNHS members in the performance of their duties, 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.