

PROGRAMME

FRIDAY 12 OCTOBER

REUNION DINNER - 19.30

Dinner will be held in the **Mayflower Suite**. There will be a four-course menu, with dietary alternatives for those who have requested them. A wine-ordering service will be open from 18.00 in the foyer. We will gather from 18.30 and dinner will be announced at 19.15 for 19.30. As usual we welcome souvenirs and flags with which to decorate the room so if you have any suitable items please bring them along and help make this a real BI occasion. Dress: Jacket & Tie (smart/casual).

After dinner there will be a short presentation by Odyssey Marine Exploration. It is anticipated that Senior Project Manager Andrew Craig, who led the team that discovered the shipwrecks of British India ships ss Gairsoppa and ss Mantola, will talk about their recovery efforts and provide an overview of the last voyage of each ship, detailing the search and recovery operations while sharing images of the final resting places of both vessels.

SATURDAY 13 OCTOBER

CELEBRATING THE DIAMOND JUBILEE OF ss UGANDA'S LAUNCH IN 1952 ss SHIELDHALL – 10.00 – 12.15

This is an opportunity to combine in an appropriately nautical setting the celebration of Uganda's Diamond Jubilee with a visit to ss Shieldhall. Currently at Berth 48, Dock Gate 4, Shieldhall like Uganda was built on the Clyde. There will be a presentation by Barrie Sanderson from the ss Uganda Trust. Coffee and biscuits and a tour of the ship included. Parking is normally available adjacent to the ship for those wishing to make their own way there.

After the presentation a small number of Shieldhall's volunteers will be on hand to conduct visitors round the Engine Room (twin triple expansion steam) and other parts of the ship. Shieldhall's well stocked bar will be open. Transport to and from Shieldhall as well as access to the ship will be free of charge but a donation to help with running costs will be appreciated.

Please be aware that anyone with a mobility problem might experience difficulty negotiating the gangway (depending upon state of the tide) or the 18" sills from main deck to Saloon, main deck to Engine Room etc.

09.45 Board coach at hotel (maximum 53)
10.00 Arrive Shieldhall
12.15 Depart Shieldhall and return to hotel

NB This coach is one of three which will leave the hotel at 12.30 for Ocean Village (see below).

CRUISE ON OCEAN SCENE -13.00-15.00

Two-hour cruise departing from Ocean Village. Facilities include covered upper and lower decks, two large sun decks, bars and heating throughout. Tea, coffee and light refreshments available at the bar. The course we follow will be at the skipper's discretion though it is likely to include a look at several cruise ships which will be in for viewing. Transport to and from the hotel as follows:

12.15-12.30 Board coaches and depart for Ocean Village
15.00 Disembark and board coaches for return to hotel

FILM SHOW – 18.00

Standish, Winslow & Bradford Suite (seating for 140 cinema-style)

The film show starts at 18.00 with a break at approx 19.30 for the hot buffet meal which will be served in the foyer, with liquid refreshments available at the bar. The remaining films will then be screened. Many of us will not have seen some of these films before so they should make for an interesting and enjoyable evening's viewing. If everything goes to plan these are the films we intend to show (though not necessarily in this order):

- 'A Career at Sea', featuring Chantala from 1956 (running time 19'0)
- 'En Route to Zanzibar' featuring Dumra, a silent film from 1935 (10'0)
- 'Where in the World' featuring ss Nevasa from 1972 (25'0)
- 'Scholar Ships' from 1968 featuring ss Dunera, Nevasa and Uganda (5'0)
- 'BI to East Africa' featuring Mantola, Malda, and Ranpura, a silent film, date uncertain (23'20)
- 'A World of Difference' from 1978 featuring ss Uganda (24'0')

I am grateful to the P&O Heritage Museum for loaning us these films from their archive, giving us a rare opportunity to see some rarely seen footage of BI ships.

SUNDAY 14 OCTOBER

CURRY LUNCH 12.30

The final event of the weekend is the traditional BI Curry Lunch without which no BI reunion is complete. A buffet-style lunch will be held in the **Mayflower Suite** from 12.30. As usual there will be a selection of curries, meat, fish and vegetables from mild to hot, which will be served along with the usual accompaniments. A suitable alternative meal will be provided for those who have requested it on the original booking form.

Mike Bechley has kindly organised a visit to **SOUTHAMPTON'S VTS CENTRE** on **SATURDAY MORNING at 10.00 am.**

Normally only available to Pilotage Certificate holders this is a rare opportunity to see the latest in Vessel Traffic technology. Southampton Vessel Traffic Services control all shipping movements in the Solent, from Southampton to approximately 7 miles past the Nab Tower, and with links to Portsmouth Harbour as well. A series of radars, AIS and CCTVs enables the watchkeepers to monitor and advise all shipping over 20 metres in length. Commencing at 10.00 the visit will last approximately 90 minutes. The Centre can host groups of up to ten visitors and there are five remaining places available. Those interested should contact organiser **Mike Bechley** (email m.bechley@ntlworld.com; tel: 0239 255 2087), by mid-September. There will be at least three ships in (including P&O's Arcadia) so traffic will be quite heavy. The centre is at Berth 37 in the Eastern Docks. Please provide car registration number if driving, for security clearance and parking permit. **Meet at the Centre at 09.45**; please let Mike know if car-sharing is needed.

30 July 2012