We are proud to be associated with RBAI who continue to host our monthly meetings – the School is closely associated with Belfast’s wider maritime history and has close associations with the Titanic story: Titanic’s Dr Simpson and Thomas Andrews were among its former pupils (‘Old Instonians’) as was Lord William Pirrie, Chairman of Harland and Wolff shipbuilders – for more information on RBAIs illustrious history visit their school website at www.rbai.ac.uk

SATURDAY 9th AND SUNDAY 10th SEPTEMBER

OPEN DAY AT GRAYMOUNT HOUSE (‘Heritage Open Days’)

An event by TRACY BEARE Vice Principal of Hazelwood Integrated School and BTS member. Graymount House is a Regency House opened in 1835 by linen merchant William Gray. The house was bought by Belfast Corporation for a municipal hospital for tuberculosis children. It was also headquarters for the auxiliary fire service during WW2 and opened in 1945 as ‘Graymount Girls’. Presently it is used as part of Hazelwood Integrated College. The Society will be providing artefacts from its historic archive collection. Open times: both days 11:00 - 16:00. www.discovernorthernireland.com

EVENT at PRONII, Titanic Quarter

MONDAY 11th SEPTEMBER

‘THE BIG FOUR SHIPS OF THE WHITE STAR FLEET’

A talk by MARK CHIRNSIDE, author, historian and consultant

This even is jointly hosted by the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) and the Belfast Titanic Society – a presentation by maritime historian, Mark Chirnside at PRONI. The White Star Line’s Celtic (1901), Cedric (1903), Baltic (1904) and Adriatic (1907), collectively known as the ‘Big Four’, served for a combined 110 years. Together they carried around 1.5 million passengers on the Liverpool to New York and Southampton to New York routes during their time in service. Arguably the most successful series of ships the Company ever produced and forerunners of the Olympic Class.

Mark has written a string of successful maritime history books – The ‘Olympic’ Class Ships: Olympic, Titanic & Britannic (revised edition 2011);
RMS Olympic: Titanic’s Sister (revised edition 2015); RMS Majestic: The ‘Magic Stick’ (2006); RMS Aquitania: The ‘Ship Beautiful’ (2008); Olympic, Titanic & Britannic: An Illustrated History of the ‘Olympic’ Class Ships (2012); and The ‘Big Four’ of the White Star Fleet: Celtic, Cedric, Baltic & Adriatic (2016). He co-authored The Sting of the Hawke: Collision in the Solent (2015) with Sam Halpern and contributed to Report into the Loss of the SS Titanic (2011), among other projects. He’s served as a consultant to television documentaries such as Titanic: The Missing Link (2012). Recently, he lectured at the ‘100 Years Kea Shipwrecks’ conference on Kea Island, Greece, which commemorated the centennial of the losses of Burdigala and Titanic’s sister ship Britannic. He is a graduate in History and Politics from the University of Leicester. Mark is a long standing friend, and member, of the Belfast Titanic Society and we are delighted he is taking time out of his busy schedule to be with us in Belfast. He will also have some copies of his BIG FOUR book which he will sign on the evening.

We are indebted to Stephen Scarth and his PRONI colleagues for their work and support on this joint event - the big four ships were the forerunners of the Olympic Class and its great we can get an opportunity to understand the work laid down by Harland Wolff and White Star line which led eventually to the design and operation of the Olympic Class and Titanic herself.

SEACH PRONI’S ARCHIVES ONLINE AT WWW.NIDIRECT.GOV.UK/PRONI

MONDAY 9TH OCTOBER

‘TITANIC THE FILM – 20 YEARS ON’
- a personal view on Titanic, the world-wide phenomenon

A talk by Dr TOM MCCLUSKIE MBE, author, historian and consultant

With 2017 marking the 20th anniversary of James Cameron’s ‘Titanic’ movie Dr Tom McCloskie will illustrate, with his own photographs, his role in the making of the now legendary film and his time ‘on set’ in Baja, Mexico. He will also comment on the enduring legacy of Titanic in modern cultures contrasting that what the Edwardian culture of 1912 would have made of the story.

Tom McCloskie is author of the highly acclaimed An Anatomy of the Titanic the comprehensive deck-by-deck tour using nearly 250 b/w photographs, plans, drawings, and cutaways. He is the former Archive Manager for Harland & Wolff, builders of the RMS Titanic, and was H&W's Technical Liaison to 20th Century Fox in the production of James Cameron’s Titanic. McCluskie is also the co-author of Titanic & Her Sisters Olympic & Britannic and author of the Rise and Fall of Harland and Wolff.
Denise is a writer of biographical Fiction, non-fiction, plays & screenplays; researcher; guest speaker and reviewer of books & films. Her novel based on the true story of her great grandfather, one of the shipwrights who built Titanic is called ‘A Wistful Eye – the Tragedy of a Titanic Shipwright’ (under the name DJ Kelly). Her book views the construction and loss of the White Star Line’s iconic, yet ill-fated ship, from the perspective of one of the men who built her. Shocking at times to read of the harsh and dangerous working conditions and the precarious day to day existence of the skilled men who built such luxurious liners, yet whose own children frequently died of starvation. The book is however written with pathos, humour and an affection for the characters. Belfast journalist, broadcaster & author, Sam McAughtry, described the book as a lovely read. The author will have copies of her Titanic novel to sign after the talk.

Denise Beddows (DJ Kelly) lives in Buckinghamshire and has a background in research, investigation and intelligence analysis. One of latest books is called Buckinghamshire Spies and Subversives – covering Buckinghamshire’s 600 year history of subversion, sedition and espionage.
‘ULSTER SCOTS SHIP BUILDERS AND INDUSTRIALISTS’

A unique opportunity to visit the Exhibition Centre of the Ulster Scots Agency - includes:

- Guided tour of exhibition;
- Mini talk on Ulster Scots Ship Builders and Industrialists;
- Refreshments.

As the Agency do not open at weekends or in the evening this tour will take place during the day.

Meet at 2pm in the Corn Exchange, Gordon St, Belfast. Hear about Ritchie, Kelvin, Massey and Dunlop as well as the legacy of the Ulster Scots in the USA – even a connection through the ancestry of Neil Armstrong …the first man on the moon!

The aims of the Ulster-Scots Agency are to promote the study, conservation, development and use of Ulster-Scots as a living language; to encourage and develop the full range of its attendant culture; and to promote an understanding of the history of the Ulster-Scots.

A TALE OF THREE CAPTAINS’

A talk by PHILIP ARMSTRONG, Vice Chairman of Belfast Titanic Society and Titanic Historian

Captain Smith of the Titanic went down with his ship. Captain Arthur Rostron of the RMS Carpathia would rescue the survivors some 6-7 hours after the sinking, and Captain Stanley Lord of the steamer Californian, who only learnt of the disaster after the sinking had occurred, was ultimately blamed for failing to render assistance to the Titanic in her final hours. One of these men was the highest paid merchant marine sea captain in the world, one had been made captain at the age of only 28 years, and one of them believed in sea monsters. Tonight we are going to look at the careers of these men, what they did on the night of 14-15 April 1912, and whether they deserved the reputations that time has dealt them.

Philip is a solicitor specialising in residential property law, and owns one of the largest conveyancing firms in Northern Ireland. He has been involved with the Belfast Titanic Society since its formation in 1992 and was secretary of the predecessor Ulster Titanic Society in the late 1990’s, prior to becoming Vice Chair of the Belfast Titanic Society in 2014. Philip has a passion for all historical liners, but has a particular interest in Titanic and her sisters (especially Britannic). He has given numerous presentations on Titanic and Britannic, and he is one of the few people to have written and lectured on the salvage of Titanic from a legal perspective. He is the administrator of the Society’s popular Facebook page.
On various voyages Charles Herbert Lightoller survived a shipwreck, a cyclone, a severe bout of malaria and a fire which had ignited a cargo of coal. After a brief stint prospecting for gold in the Yukon Territory of Canada, Lightoller joined the White Star Line in 1900, by which time he was well acquainted with the drama of the high seas.

Charles Lightoller was the second officer on board the RMS Titanic and a decorated Royal Navy officer. He was the most senior member of the crew to survive the Titanic disaster ....but what was he like to those who knew him?

Stephen Cameron is regarded as one of Belfast’s ‘own’ Titanic Historians and an accomplished author - his titles include Titanic Belfast’s Own; Death in the North Channel and the loss of the MV Princess Victoria 1953 and Belfast Shipbuilders a Titanic tale.

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**MONDAY 12th MARCH**

‘THE LIFE OF CHARLES LIGHTOLLER - TITANIC’S SECOND OFFICER’

A talk by STEPHEN CAMERON author, historian, consultant & Belfast Titanic Society member

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**FRIDAY 13th APRIL 2018**

**EVENT in the Titanic Quarter**

DINNER AT THE TITANIC HOTEL BELFAST
- back in the Drawing Offices

Re-join the Belfast Titanic Society back in the historic and transformed drawing offices which were the ‘beating heart’ of the old Harland and Wolff headquarters building for ‘a night to remember’. Celebrate the design and construction of Titanic in the very location where those wonderful plans were drafted ...now in four star opulence...why not join other Society members and their guests (and treat yourself to an overnight stay). Further details will be announced on our website

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**SATURDAY 14th / SUNDAY 15th APRIL 2018**

**EVENT in BELFAST City Hall**

Join a small group of Society members and their guests, led by our President Susie Millar, at Belfast City Hall Titanic memorial.

Meet at side gate of City Hall at 2.00am. The exact time of Titanic’s sinking under the north Atlantic will be marked with some words of remembrance.

To attend this event you must be booked through our info@belfast-titanic.com email address – all emails will be acknowledged.
**THE H&W FINES BOOK**

- time office offenders
- short talk by Dr AIDAN MCMICHAEL

The fines book is a page by page account of misdemeanours & fines imposed in the ‘Yard’. The little notebook was kept by a Time Office. Offenders would be reported by the Foreman or ‘Hat’ and their name, board number and trade would be recorded in the notebook, along with the fine imposed and the nature of the offence…when the hard hats came round they could kick over your tea can…

Aidan McMichael is currently Chairman of Belfast Titanic Society and using original research and photography has previously spoken to the Society and at other public events on Robert Welch, Titanic’s Photographer, The life and Times of Gustav Wolff, Olympic’s Maiden Voyage, Valiant - Pirrie’s Yacht, Father Browne’s Photography and Marconi & Titanic.

**TUESDAY 17th JULY 2018**

‘REMEMBERING SS CARPETHIA’

In the year of the 100th anniversary of her loss during the 1st world war this short event will focus in on the role of Carpethia in the rescue of Titanic’s survivors – all the survivors were on board Carpethia from the site of the sinking back to New York. FULL EVENT DETAILS AND LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED

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**BECOME A MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY**

Becoming a member is easy just visit our webpage at [http://www.belfast-titanic.com](http://www.belfast-titanic.com/) and then click on membership.

We welcome anyone with an interest in the Titanic Story as well as the industrial and maritime history of Belfast.