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Western Joint Branch

Technical Lecture
Fore and Aft, The Story of the Purton Hulks

Presented by *Paul Barnett*

Date: Monday, 14th of October 2024
Time: **Doors Open at 18:15, lecture starts at 18:45 – Please note this new time is a trial for this season**
Venue: Lecture Theatre 1N05, Building N, University of the West of England (UWE), BS16 1QY. And online.
Organiser: Western Joint Branch RINA/IMarEST **Contact:** secretary.wjb@branches.imarest.org

Background:

On December 23, 1909, Chief Engineer AJ Cullis faced a daunting challenge when a rotational bank slip of over 60 meters threatened the canal's integrity. His ingenious solution to use old, redundant barges to plug the gap not only saved the canal but also laid the foundation for a fascinating historical site.

This presentation delves into the secrets of the Purton Hulks, the largest ships' graveyard in mainland Britain, where 86 vessels rest. These hulks, originally intended to protect the canal's banks, now offer a unique glimpse into maritime history. Our speaker, Paul Barnett, has dedicated over 25 years to unravelling the mysteries of this site, documenting and preserving its stories.

Join us as we explore the Sharpness and Gloucester Canal's past, from its construction to its role in maritime heritage, and discover how a crisis over a century ago continues to captivate historians and enthusiasts alike.



Registration:

We will be running this as a Hybrid Event - [Click Here to Register](#)



CPD Certificates will be sent out on request to the email address used to register.

Next event: AGM and Navigating the Winds of Innovation: Challenges in Designing, Installing, and Commercializing Rotor Sails by Anemoi.

Date: 11th November 2024; **Time:** Refreshments at **18:15**, lecture starts at 18:45.

Venue: BRLSI, 16-18 Queen Square, Bath BA1 2HN



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