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april 2018





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John Robinson (1943-2018)

This is to bring you the very sad news that our very gentle and great friend, John Robinson died Saturday 28 April after a battle with cancer near his home in Stonehouse ([read more](#), by his close friend Thedo Fruithof).

Joint Congress and General Assembly of EMH and MHT in Portsmouth

EMH held its annual **Congress and General Assembly 2018** together with the Maritime Heritage Trust (MHT). In addition, all Councils and the General Board of EMH met in Portsmouth.

Further information:

- Minutes of the General Assembly of EMH ([Download](#))
- Minutes of the meeting of the Safety and Environment Council ([Download](#))
- Presentations held at the conference ([Download](#))

Inland Waterways Council

It was decided in the General Assembly to re-establish the **Inland waterways Council**. We still need participants to this Council from our members. Whoever is interested in joining the Council is welcome to notify us. Please remember that each national and regional member as well as the Associate and Advisory Members together have the right to nominate a delegee. The Inland Waterways Council shall start its work at the next regular council meetings in September at the latest.

EMH will join the next meeting of DBA - The Barges Association (UK) in June to discuss a closer cooperation on inland waterway matters.

- Contact: Thomas Hoppe (thomas.hoppe@emh-org.com)

Rules for Councils

It was decided in the General assembly of EMH to invent **new internal rules for Councils**. The proposal of the DMB for such rules for discussion in the next Board-meeting (September 2018) are enclosed.



Further information:

- Proposal for internal rules of Councils of EMH ([Download](#))
- Contact: Thomas Hoppe (thomas.hoppe@emh-org.com)

Letter to EU regarding traditional boats on inland waterways

The Safety and Environment Council sent a statement to the EU-Commission to address the problem of the upcoming deadline of a **certification requirement of inland waterway vessels above 20 meters**. It asked the Commission to extend the deadline beyond the end of this year.

Further information:

- Letter to the EU-Commission (Download, 30 kb)
- Contact: Hedda Lombardo (hedda.lombardo@emh-org.com)
- Contact: Paul van Ommen (paul@debbz.nl)

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Unfortunately, we have no news on the **MOU**. The meeting of the MOU-Committee has been postponed indefinitely, as it seems. EMH took the decision to celebrate the MOU, which is very important especially to our Nordic members, during a sailing trip from Nysted to Rostock on the 8th August. Anybody is welcome to participate!

- More Information: Haikutter-Flyer (Download, 34 kB)
- Contact for the sailing trip: Lars Palm (lars.palm@emh-org.com)
- Contact for the MOU: Hedda Lombardo (hedda.lombardo@emh-org.com)

International Laws 1

Shortly, a new **Passenger Ship Directive** will enter into force in Europe. It has major implications as for the first time it contains a viable definition – and exemption – for sailing vessels. This is mainly due to the successful intervention of the Safety Council of EMH. The new definition will now clarify that a sailing vessel may very well have an engine and thus be propelled by mechanical means without having to apply for a commercial passenger ship certificate. Unfortunately, now the exemptions for sailing vessels between SOLAS and the European rules differ from each other. SOLAS only refers to ships not propelled by mechanical means which leaves the question unanswered whether a sailing ship with an engine is exempted. The Safety and Environment Council will approach the IMO for clarification in this matter.



- Contact: Hedda Lombardo (hedda.lombardo@emh-org.com)
- Contact: Paul van Ommen (paul@debbz.nl)

International Laws 2

The new Passenger Ship Directive in Europe does, unfortunately, not exempt **historical ships** as such from its scope of application. Although most older ships are exempted by other provisions (wooden hull, below 24m, sailing ships, passenger ships built before 1965 etc.), there remains the case of larger non-wooden historical ships such as former cargo-vessels, ice-breakers or tug-boats, which all must comply with modern rules. The Safety Council will try to find a solution for these often historically very important vessels.

- Contact: Hedda Lombardo (hedda.lombardo@emh-org.com)
- Contact: Paul van Ommen (paul@debbz.nl)

EMH Autumn meetings

The **Autumn meetings of EMH** (General Board and all Councils) will take place from 15th to 16th September in L'Escala (close to Girona, Spain) in conjunction with the "Salt Festival", organized by the Museu de l'Anxova i de la Sal. Please save the date. Further information will follow.

Data Protection Laws

Most of you may have heard about the **new data protection laws**, finally entering into force these days. You will receive a separate mail in this matter. We apologize for any inconvenience.



EMH

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Office:

Fahrenheitstr. 11

DE 28359 Bremen

www.emh-org.com

office@emh-org.com

Vereniging met volledige
rechtsbevoegdheid

RSIN: 857834988 (Amsterdam)

President: David T. Morgan

Vice-President: Thomas Hoppe

Treasurer: Lars Palm

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Pictured: Tom Cunliffe speaking during the Gala Diner
at the Royal Naval Club in Portsmouth

