I can scarcely believe it is thirty years since I witnessed the Mary Rose surfacing in the stormy Solent after 417 years on the seabed. I first dived on the ship in 1974 and have since then followed the excavation, conservation and exhibition with a very close interest. It has been the most extraordinary project, bringing out the very best of British professionalism, determination and endurance, and I am extremely proud to have been the President of the Trust throughout this period of time.

Without government funding, the Trust has consistently fought the financial battle for survival, often against the odds. It is most reassuring that results-needed support has come from individuals and organisations who have had the foresight and imagination to see the Mary Rose and her contents as being one of this nation's greatest treasures. Since its inception, the Heritage Lottery Fund has enthusiastically and loyally supported the Trust, seeing it as one of their top priorities.

As the Trust enters its 30th Anniversary year, it is enormously encouraging to see that the new museum is nearing completion and is expected to open to the public at the end of this year. To raise the vast majority of the funds required at this particularly challenging time is a great achievement, as is the delivery of such a complex programme on budget. My sincere thanks are due to all the donors who have supported this project and my heartfelt congratulations go to everyone who has helped the Trust to reach this stage.

[Signature]
Achieving this massive and complex project within a tight programme, and maintaining an exhibition that is going to be truly world class, is due to the superb team working at the Trust, and their professional partners together with the builders Warings. It has been a highly professional project, coming in on budget and virtually on time despite many challenges along the way. We are and through the project yet, for the fitting out of the museum and the mounting of the exhibition will take place in the second half of this year. A great deal of work has already been completed in preparation for this stage and we are confident that the new exhibition will be breathtaking.

The fundraising task to afford this £35m project (which includes the conservation up to 2016) is nearing the end. The Heritage Lottery Fund has continued to be our champion, and many individuals and a number of corporates have stepped up to the mark to help. Our task here is not yet finished, so we ask for further support in our vital task, made harder in these harsh economic times.

At this 30 year mark, we are close to achieving the dreams of the Trust when it was set up. This is a year to remember.

Thirty years is a long time in one way, and a very short one in another - certainly in the life of a warship built over 500 years ago.

While maintaining our current successful operations, the Trust has been busyly engaged in the creation of a new museum, and it is this that should be complete by around the end of this year. Not long will show of the ship (before it will still be dried until 2016) in conjunction with thousands of our artefacts in context with their owners and their location onboard, but it will give the Trust the facilities to expand its activities and welcome many more visitors. Our learning centre will be one of the finest for museums in the country. Most importantly, the museum will also allow us to generate more income through increased visits, built-in catering facilities, and the opportunities of unique corporate hospitality. We aim to achieve self-sufficiency on the conservation is complete.

From the time the Mary Rose was raised in 1982 after 437 years on the seabed, to the present day, she has been under continuous conservation and care from her dedicated staff. The 19,000 artefacts from within her form the world’s finest insight into life in Tudor times, but until now only 6% have been on display and many thousands have not even been conserved. The temporary exhibition opened in 1983 has served the Trust and the public well until now and we have had some 6 million visitors. The learning and outreach programme has developed over the last decade to be of national significance, and the academic side of the Trust’s activities - with the publication completed, many articles published in learned journals, and countless lecture delivered - has been highly acclaimed. Not bad for the first 30 years, but there is no much more just around the corner!
When the Mary Rose was raised in 1982, the Historic Dockyard was a very different place.

HMS Victory had been open to the public since 1922 alongside the Royal Naval Museum but Portsmouth was yet to become the centre of maritime history as it is now. Since then, with the opening of the Mary Rose Museum, the arrival of HMS Warrior 1860 in 1987, the Millennium Commission-funded Action Stations opening at the turn of the century and the numerous other additions made to the site, we have become one of the leading visitor attractions in the country and a centre of excellence for the interpretation of maritime heritage.

The Mary Rose Trust has played its own significant part in the development of the site – none more so than the investment in the new museum – but they have also agreed a strategy with the partner trusts for the next five years with a real focus on increasing visitor numbers; enhancing the visitor experience in all the attractions and ensuring that customer service is always exemplary and tailored. Key to this strategy is partnership working and collaboration.

The achievements of the Mary Rose project over the last 30 years have been dependent on this and during the times when it has been difficult and the future seemed particularly challenging, the Trust has worked tirelessly to achieve great things. We anticipate a similar dedication to our collective efforts to ensure that the future of Portsmouth Historic Dockyard is bright and commercially successful. Here is to the next 30 years!

Dr Caroline Williams
Portsmouth Historic Dockyard
Over the last year there has been a huge amount of hard work towards the completion of the new Mary Rose Museum building works. When complete, it will reflect the tremendous effort of the Professional Team: Wilkinson Eyre, Pringle Brandon, Land Design, Ramboll, Second London Wall, Davis Langdon and Warrings Contractors Ltd, contractors for the museum construction. In mid 2012 the project will begin the fit out phase, with the installation of showcases, artefacts, audio-visual displays and graphics in preparation for opening of the new museum.

The new museum’s exhibition will provide an unrivalled insight into the life of the ship’s sinking through to the day of her discovery, excavation and raising. The role and life of the crew on board the ship will be explored through several key characters and around the perimeter of each of the main galleries will be showcases exploring the associated themes. At the centre of the museum, the context gallery will offer visitors views, through windows, of the Mary Rose hull undergoing its air drying, while along the context gallery walkways thousands of objects will be laid out as they were moments before the ship sank.

New education facilities in the museum’s north pavilion will enable greater learning opportunities for schools, colleges and universities. There will be two dedicated classrooms and a large breakout area that will encourage learners of all ages to engage with the story of the Mary Rose. In particular, the new laboratory-based classroom will offer the opportunity to explore key scientific principles associated with the Mary Rose.

On exiting the museum, visitors will pass through the shop enabling them to purchase something to remind them of their visit and the café will offer visitors the chance to relax in spectacular surroundings, overlooking HMS Victory and the modern Royal Navy.

The new museum will establish the Mary Rose as a museum of international significance and enable the ship and her objects to tell their unique stories for future generations.

Over the last year there has been a huge amount of hard work towards the completion of the new Mary Rose Museum building works.
CONSERVATION

Conservation has been at the heart of the Mary Rose Project from the beginning.

The last 30 years have been a voyage of discovery for all those involved with caring for the Mary Rose and her extraordinary collection. In fact the first major object, a wrought iron gun, was recovered over 40 years ago, and sent to Portsmouth Museum for conservation. At the time their laboratory was well equipped to conserve large metal objects such as guns, and also to freeze-dry organic artefacts.

The early years would not have been possible without the support of Portsmouth City Museum, the National Maritime Museum and the Portsmouth Naval Base Commander. Gradually as the huge volume of artefacts recovered grew, the focus of the organisation changed from maritime archaeology to maritime conservation. Led first by Howard Murray and then by Professor Mark Jones, the Mary Rose Conservation Department helped pioneer many of the techniques used in the preservation of waterlogged materials. In the early days artefacts were being stored in tanks wherever they could be found, in and near the dockyard. Gradually as the volume became more significant storage space was found in the basement of the Block Mills in the dockyard, in Bishops Street, Old Commercial Road and later in Warblington Street.

Everything changed in 2003 when the first bay of the Chain Test House in the Naval Base was acquired, and over the last 8 years progressively more of the building has been leased to the Trust and is the largest maritime archaeological conservation workshop in the world.

Over the course of the last thirty years, hundreds of thousands of children have visited the Museum and enjoyed practical sessions relating to the Mary Rose. From the traditional base of primary school history, education has branched out into secondary, A level and university education. Science for primary pupils through to postgraduate students now plays a major role in the Trust’s education programme. Out-of-hours learning has become increasingly important with sessions offered in the evenings and at weekends. Alongside the museum education runs an extensive community outreach programme which focuses on groups of adults and children with special needs. This work extends across the south east of England and is supported by the national network of Mary Rose Information Group volunteer speakers. The Internet offers an exciting new medium of reaching a new national and international audience. After thirty years the Trust will be well placed to offer a first class learning programme for children and adults housed in a purpose-built Learning Centre in the new Museum. Outreach and community education will continue to complement learning in the Museum. We look forward to bringing the story of the Mary Rose to a new generation. Our sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed over the years to this fantastic programme.

Glenn McConnachie

Dr Glenn McConnachie died in September 2011 after a short illness. His sudden death came as a dreadful loss for us all. He joined the Trust in 1990 and was responsible for the Hull and artefact conservation programme. Glenn also designed and project managed the Chain Test House development programme. He will be missed by us all for a long time to come. The conserved ship will be an enduring reminder of his contribution to the project.

LEARNING

Learning has always been at the heart of the Mary Rose Trust.

Over the course of the last thirty years, hundreds of thousands of children have visited the Museum and enjoyed practical sessions relating to the Mary Rose. From the traditional base of primary school history, education has branched out into secondary, A level and university education. Science for primary pupils through to postgraduate students now plays a major role in the Trust’s education programme. Out-of-hours learning has become increasingly important with sessions offered in the evenings and at weekends. Alongside the museum education runs an extensive community outreach programme which focuses on groups of adults and children with special needs. This work extends across the south east of England and is supported by the national network of Mary Rose Information Group volunteer speakers. The Internet offers an exciting new medium of reaching a new national and international audience. After thirty years the Trust will be well placed to offer a first class learning programme for children and adults housed in a purpose-built Learning Centre in the new Museum. Outreach and community education will continue to complement learning in the Museum. We look forward to bringing the story of the Mary Rose to a new generation. Our sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed over the years to this fantastic programme.
MUSEUM STAFF

We are in for an exciting year as we finally move out of the current museum which opened its doors in 1984 and move into our new stunning museum.

We have been working in the old museum since 1984 and move into the new Mary Rose museum later this year. Whilst many colleagues and volunteers have worked here happily over the last 28 years, we are not looking back and are excited about our future working life in the new museum. The outbuilding resonates with the story of the Mary Rose but it was hot in the summer, cold in the winter, the roof leaked and the electric circuits were problematic – so we can’t wait to move!

MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS

Moving a museum is a huge challenge. Although less than 10% of the collection of artefacts were on display, over the last few months even those have begun to be removed for remounting and preparation for display.

Relocating a museum is a huge challenge. Although less than 10% of the total Mary Rose collection of artefacts have been on display, over the last few months many of these objects have begun to be removed for remounting and surface treatment in preparation for display in the new exhibition. During the final stage of the project, the museum has been reduced in size and the current display now focuses on “The story of the Mary Rose”. The volunteers and costumed interpreters have risen splendidly to the challenge and manned more information and artefact handling tables in order to engage our visitors more effectively. Their reaction has been very positive and although the ship remains out of sight in the centre of the new museum building, our visitors have given consistently encouraging feedback.
The last year has been preparing for the moment we can get into the new museum. Then the really heavy work begins. The design is approved; the contracts are all in place, most of the mounts are ready and the gallery text is written. None of this is as simple as it sounds. The difference between the general design and the detail becomes apparent when we start fitting complex artefacts into tight spaces. Thousands of artefacts will be on display in the new museum, some of these artefacts have never been reconstructed, almost all of them are extremely fragile and unusual. The seven themed galleries are prepared, and in partnership with our specialist designers, the gun mounts have been designed and built, a difficult balance between strength to hold a 2,800kg barrel safely above its carriage, but barely visible from the visitor walkway.

Writing the gallery text is a lengthy process, starting at 100,000 words now edited to half that length. We have to give our visitors an insight into decades of research and understanding without overwhelming them, whilst retaining their interest. The last two years with the Historical Images to explain how life was lived on the Mary Rose. We have worked with a variety of audience groups to make sure their special needs are met when they visit the museum.

We have retained the service of many specialist contractors, and months of research has been undertaken to provide the tightly controlled environment our artefacts require. The process of selecting the specialist contractors has been undertaken where best is not always cheapest but all has been achieved within budget. We are grateful to all of them for working to our exacting standards and for their support.
FUNDRAISING

Finally, our fundraising for the new museum is on the home straight and is expected to close by the end of 2012.

The remarkable achievements of these last 30 years have only been made possible by the fundraising efforts of many hundreds of individuals, trustees, staff and volunteers. We have relied on support from individuals, trusts, foundations and companies. Special thanks are due to the Heritage Lottery Fund and Hampshire County Council, whose help and commitment to the long term conservation programme and new museum has been so crucial to the success of our Appeal. The highly successful Flag Officers’ Club will continue to attract new members, and a new Friends of the Mary Rose scheme will boost annual income to support our activities.

As the Appeal for the new museum draws to a close work starts on the next stage of our development. The Trust is currently creating a Permanent Endowment Fund to ensure the long-term future of the Mary Rose and the new museum that houses her. We have already launched the new Friends scheme with an attractive range of benefits, and are developing other exciting initiatives – watch this space!

In the shop we have been focusing on reducing our existing stock and re-shaping the merchandise in preparation for the move to the new museum. The pressure has been on to maintain turnover at a time when we have reduced our range of merchandise from over 2000 lines to just over 600. We have also introduced the new Mary Rose Trust logo onto new merchandise and see this as not only reflecting the Mary Rose brand but also as a mark of quality. We have begun to introduce some new pewter lines, some of which incorporate wood fragments from the wreck site. The launch of full internet trading took place in the spring and it is now possible to order a wider range of Mary Rose stock on line. This has had an immediate effect on mail order business. We are ready for the transition to the new museum and are keen to get moving.

Christine Brown

We have had our share of sadness this year; Christine Brown, a dear friend and colleague to all at the Mary Rose, lost her battle with cancer on 28th December 2011. She worked in the Gift Shop for over 8 years. She will be remembered by all she worked with for her inspirational courage and her love of life (and fashion). Christine will be very sadly missed.
The excavations carried out by the Mary Rose Trust between 1979 and 1982 marked a turning point for maritime archaeology in the UK. Not only were the techniques set to the same standards as terrestrial archaeology but also, the project raised public awareness in maritime archaeology and our underwater cultural heritage.

Neither the archaeology nor the discovery of new finds ended with the raising of the Mary Rose back in October 1982. Many objects were even recovered from between the frames of the ship as the remaining silts were cleared out between 1982 and 1989. Other dramatic finds have been discovered since 1982 as the iron concretions recovered from the ship in tumps were excavated ashore. These included finding a horn ‘nock-end’ for a longbow – the only one we ever discovered – and even finding further gold coins in these concretions.

An important responsibility for the Trust is the monitoring of the Mary Rose wreck site to check for distortion or damage to the remaining archaeological material in the area. Sophisticated monitoring equipment has been placed at the site to measure environmental conditions, supplemented by periodic inspection by staff divers.

Between 2003 and 2006, the Trust had the opportunity to undertake three additional seasons of excavations. Important new finds were made and recovered including an anchor and the stem timber. These are currently being conserved and will form impressive new displays in the future when their conservation will catch up with the conservation of the hull and they can be displayed together with the ship.

Our team continue to advise other projects both in the UK and internationally through the work of Mary Rose Archaeological Services (MRAS).
Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2011

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<th>Income</th>
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<th>Total 2010</th>
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<td>Commercial Trading Income</td>
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<td>Concessions</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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<td>Total Income Resources</td>
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These summarized accounts are extracted from this Trustee’s report and Financial Statements for the year ended December 2011, which received an unqualified auditor’s report. They were approved on 6 July 2012 and submitted to the Charity Commissioners and Registrar of Companies. These summarized accounts may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity.

A complete set of the report and accounts is available from The Mary Rose Trust on request.

NOTE - Chairman

Michael Aiken

ANNUAL REVIEW 2012