



2nd Annual Report of Maritime Mumbai Museum Society Financial Year 2020-2021

Background.

Maritime Mumbai Museum Society was registered on 06 Sep 2019. The first Annual Report was presented at the AGM held on 03 Oct 2020 and may be taken as read.

Activities


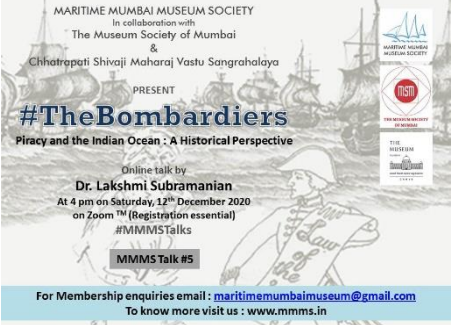
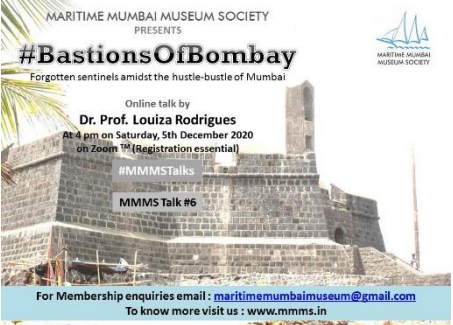

A national lockdown to cope with the pandemic was declared on 23 Mar 2020. Thus, the year 2020-21 opened with all members confined to quarters. Therefore, your committee decided to conduct talks of interest which could be held on virtual platform of ZOOM.

Online Talks

The following talks were held during the year

| SI | Topic | Speaker | Date Conducted | |
|----|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| a. | #Silver Nail – The history of shipbuilding in Mumbai | Cdr. Ninad Phatarphekar (Retd.) | 26 Sep 20 & 10 Oct 20 | |
| b. | #On the Waterfront – Development of the Eastern Waterfront of Mumbai for water transport, tourism and recreation | Dilip Sekdar | 17 Oct 20 | |



| | | | | |
|----|---|---------------------------------|-----------|--|
| c. | #Raining Gold – The Bombay Dock Explosion of 1944 | Cdr Mohan Naryan (Retd.) | 31 Oct 20 |  |
| d. | #The Bombardiers – Piracy and the Indian Ocean: A historical perspective | Dr. Lakshmi Subramanian | 12 Dec 20 |  |
| e. | #Bastions of Bombay – Forgotten Sentinels amidst the hustle-bustle of Mumbai | Dr. Louisa Rodrigues | 05 Dec 20 |  |
| f. | #Full Revolutions Ahead – The saga of Steamships to present day Warships and Submarines | Cdr. Ninad Phatarphekar (Retd.) | 19 Dec 20 |  |



| | | | | |
|----|---|--------------------------|-----------|---|
| g. | #Coastal Chronicles – Habitats and adaptations of the Marine Life of Mumbai | Naman Kaji | 09 Jan 21 | <p>MARITIME MUMBAI MUSEUM SOCIETY In Collaboration with Wild West Travel and Photography Pvt. Ltd. Present #CoastalChronicles Habitats & Adaptations of the Marine Life of Mumbai Online talk by Naman Kaji At 4 pm on Saturday, 9th January 2021 on Zoom™ (Registration essential) #MMMSTalks MMMS Talk #8 For Membership enquiries email : maritimemumbaimuseum@gmail.com To know more visit us : www.mmms.in</p> |
| h. | #Blueprint to Bluewater – Indian Navy’s Maritime outlook since independence | Capt. SS Parmar | 23 Jan 21 | <p>MARITIME MUMBAI MUSEUM SOCIETY Presents #BlueprintToBluewater The Indian Navy’s Maritime Outlook since Independence Online talk by Capt. Sarabjeet Singh Parmar (Executive Director, National Maritime Foundation) At 4 pm on Saturday, 23rd January 2021 on Zoom™ (Registration essential) MMMS Talk #9 For Membership enquiries email : maritimemumbaimuseum@gmail.com To know more visit us : www.mmms.in</p> |
| j. | #Tale of two Cities – Thane and Chaul: The erstwhile shipping havens on the west coast of India | Dr. Fleur D’souza | 06 Feb 21 | <p>MARITIME MUMBAI MUSEUM SOCIETY In collaboration with The Museum Society of Mumbai & Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya Present #taleoftwocities Thane & Chaul: the erstwhile shipping havens on the west coast of India Online talk by Dr. Fleur D’Souza At 4 pm on Saturday, 6th February 2021 on Zoom™ (Registration essential) MMMS Talk #10 For Membership enquiries email : maritimemumbaimuseum@gmail.com To know more visit us : www.mmms.in</p> |
| k. | #Piracy off Somalia – A case study of the complexities of the Maritime realm | Cmde Srikant Kesnur, VSM | 20 Feb 21 | <p>MARITIME MUMBAI MUSEUM SOCIETY in collaboration with The Museum Society of Mumbai & Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya Present #PiracyOffSomalia A case study of the Complexities of the Maritime Realm Online talk by Cmde Srikant Kesnur (Director of Maritime Warfare Centre, Mumbai) At 4 pm on Saturday, 20th February 2021 on Zoom™ (Registration essential) MMMS Talk #11 For Membership enquiries email : maritimemumbaimuseum@gmail.com To know more visit us : www.mmms.in</p> |



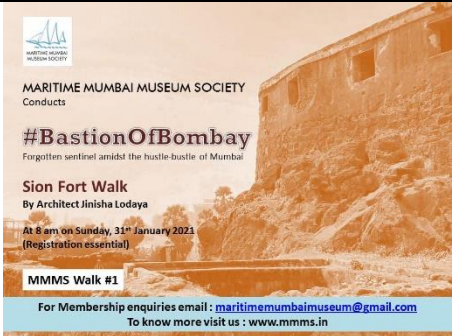


| | | | | |
|----|--|--------------------|-----------|--|
| I. | #Merchants of Kutch – Merchants, Merchandises and Markets: Transoceanic trading network of the Kachchhis | Dr. Chhaya Goswami | 06 Mar 21 | |
|----|--|--------------------|-----------|--|

The talks were welcomed by our members and attracted interest from citizens of Mumbai. The Museum Society of Mumbai (MSM) and the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangralaya (CSMVS) partnered our Society in the conduct of the talks and the mutual benefit has been highly appreciated. The talks required registration but were free to all participants. The participation varied from about 40 to 80 including members of MMMS, members of MSM and non members across the country including Chennai, Bengaluru and Kolkata. All talks were followed by lively Q&A sessions which encouraged interactive participation by members and enhanced their experience.



Curated Walks

The following curated walks were organised and well attended by members.

| SI | Walk | Curated by | Date Conducted | |
|----|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| a. | #Bastion of Bombay – Sion Fort | Jinisha Lodaya | 31 Jan 21 & 14 Feb 21 |  |
| b. | #Ballard Ballads – Ballard Estate | Alisha Sadikot | 28 Feb 21 |  |
| c. | #The Sassoon Saga – Sassoon Dock | No Footprints Travel Company | 21 Mar 21 |  |

To ensure social distancing numbers were generally restricted to groups of 15.



Sion Fort Walk



Sassoon Dock Walk



Ballard Bunder Walk



Site Visits

We have conducted the following visits to enable our members to familiarise themselves with the opportunities available to progress our aims and objectives.

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| INS Viraat | 08 Oct 2019 |
| Dharohar, Mazagon Dock Museum | 14 Aug 2020 |
| Ghadiyal Ghar | 24 Dec 2020 |
| MbPT Mechanical Engineering Museum | 24 Dec 2020 |



Visit to Dharohar Museum at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd.



Visit to Ghadiyal Ghar



Interaction with Mumbai Port Trust.

A detailed presentation of the MMMS proposal for a mini museum in the DCT Tower was made to Chairman MbPT on 11 Dec 2019. Thereafter, Chairman Mumbai Port Trust, Mr Sanjay Bhatia who encouraged our participation in the discussions towards establishing the mini museum in the DCT Tower was constrained by the restrictions imposed during the pandemic, and the extraordinary priority to be accorded for the new MbPT hospital. Therefore, no progress was possible during 2020 until he demitted office in July 2020. On 24 Nov 2020 we had a virtual introductory meeting with Mr Rajiv Jalota who took over as Chairman MbPT from Mr Sanjay Bhatia. Mr Jalota was briefed again on 10 Mar 2021. We await the lifting of the current restrictions to increase our interaction.

Ghadiyal Ghar

MbPT decided in Dec 2020 that they would invite Expression of Interest to convert Ghadiyal Ghar into a museum or any other facility. The Public Notice has been prepared by CRISIL. The structural audit had been conducted about 4 years ago and the MbPT expects that the condition to be similar today. The question of access to the public has hampered the project since 2016. We have pointed out that a footbridge from the marina area could provide ready access and invoked an earlier design where a similar bridge had been proposed from P D'mello Road. We hope the issue will be resolved and the Public Notice inviting the EOI will be published shortly. As was stated in the Annual Report of 2019-20, MMMS continue to harbour the aspiration that the Ghadiyal Ghar, a heritage structure built in 1890, would be the ideal building for a maritime museum. This may still be ambitious, but time will tell how these aspirations will fructify, with persistence and determination of MMMS.



INS Viraat

Despite our best efforts to promote the financing of the project by two prospective bidders, the sale of the vessel to Ms Shree Ram Ship Recycling Co. was finalised in March 2020 and the ship was sadly towed away for scrapping in Sep 2020. We were in contact with the Ministry of Defence and M/s Envitech during the final effort to stop the scrapping process and retain the ship for use as a museum. The final order negating all those efforts was issued only in Mar 2021.

Otis College of Art & Design

The invaluable design ideas created by the 8 participants in the 5-day workshop are still a great asset with MMMS. and will be utilised to support our EOI document.

UDRI

MMMS approached UDRI for assistance in the preparation of the EOI document for Ghadiyal Ghar. The trustees were initially very supportive. However there was a change in the senior management which led to a final review meeting on 25 Feb 2021. At the meeting Mr Rahul Mehrotra, Trustee of UDRI who is also a leading conservation Architect and the Dean of the Harvard School of Architecture advised that we would be better off preparing the EOI document ourselves with the help of a conservation architect in Mumbai. We have discussed the issue with Dr Brinda Somaya, who has advised that we wait for the public Notice to see what terms and conditions it contains before moving in the matter.

Mechanical Museum of MbPT

MbPT had set up a Mechanical Museum in about 2016 in their workshop area. As that area was due to be handed over to Mazagon Dock Ltd, the items were packed and moved to Ghadiyal Ghar. However as the land deal has been rescinded, the items are packed and stored. MMMS will continue to advocate that suitable artefacts will be better displayed in our proposed Maritime Museum.



Merewether Dry Dock Building as a Maritime Museum

As the road access to Ghadiyal Ghar was not possible at present, MbPT issued a Public Notice on 23 Jul 2021 inviting Expression of Interest in establishing a Maritime Museum in the Merewether Dry Dock Building. The Managing Committee decided to respond positively. The EOI document was submitted on 11 Aug 2021 with the concept

design by Ms. Anita Yewale, Cdr N Phatarphekar (Retd.) and Architects Jiten Desai and Tapan Mittal Deshpande. The estimated cost is Rs. 6.2 Cr. M/s JM Baxi, Mr Ashok Chowgule, Mr C Guzder, Dr P Godrej, VJS Foundation and Mrs Asha Sheth have pledged in total Rs 626.5 lakhs in support of our EOI document. The response of the MbPT is awaited.

Managing Committee

The tenure of the founding managing committee ended on 03 Oct 2020. The elections for the Managing Committee were held on 03 Oct 2020 and the following were elected unopposed. The office bearers were then elected at the first meeting of the Managing Committee.

- a. VADM. AR Karve (Retd.) President
- b. Mr. Chetan Shah, Treasurer
- c. Mr. Pradip Shah
- d. Ms. Anita Yewale
- e. Mr. Aadil Desai, Vice President
- f. Mr. Asif Lampwala
- g. Cdr. Ninad Phatarphekar (Retd.) Secretary
- h. Mr. Ankur Jain.



Registration of the MMMS as a Trust

Our application to be registered as a Trust under the Maharashtra Public Trusts Act was approved on 02 Mar 2021 under the registration no. F-76261(M). This has been issued under the name 'Maritime Mumbai Museum Trust'. Action to change the name of the Trust to 'Maritime Mumbai Museum Society' will be taken up.

Membership Activities.

The membership drive for the fresh subscriptions for the year 2021-22 was launched on 01 Mar 2021. The membership strength now stands at 57.

Members have also contributed generously towards donations as follows

| Sl. | Name | Amount (Rs.) |
|------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| a. | V Adm. IC Rao (Retd.) | 10,000.00 |
| b. | Ms. Asha Sheth | 9,000.00 |
| c. | Dr. Pheroza Godrej | 25,000.00 |
| d. | Adm, V Shekhawat (Retd.) | 10,000.00 |
| e. | Cdr Sati Taneja (Retd.) | 10,000.00 |

All the activities during the year have been made possible by the constancy of the support we have received from our members and well-wishers

Media Mentions

The Society received a number of media mentions of its various activities in various publications. Some of them are placed at Appendix. We acknowledge the efforts of Cdr Ninad Phatarphekar (Retd.), Mr Aadil Desai and Ms Anita Yewale in promoting our media presence strongly.



Acknowledgements

The strength of our Society is our group of members, associates and supporters and generous donors.

The Accounts of the Society will be circulated with the Notice for the Annual General Meeting. We thank our Hon Treasurer Mr Chetan Shah for his management of our finances. The balance available as on 31 March '21 was Rs. 3,93,437.00.

I commend to you this Annual Report 2020-2021 and the Statement of Accounts for adoption by the General Body.

Commander N Phatarphekar (Retd.)
Secretary
Maritime Mumbai Museum Society



MMMS Media Mentions

Virtual sail

While organisations adapt to the digital world, a city-based society has recently started testing the waters, too. The Maritime Mumbai Museum Society (MMMS) will organise a series of online talks by experts. The first topic kicking off this evening, will delve into the origins of shipbuilding in the city. Cdr Ninad Phatarphekar (Retd), who will be conducting it, told this diarist that the aim is to show how shipbuilding has been and still is a flourishing industry, adding, "Talking about Make in India, the East India Company built over 300 ships in Bombay for them, and those would sail to America." Head to mmms.in to know more.

HMS Trincomalee, built and launched on October 12, 1817, at Bombay Dockyard, is the second oldest warship still afloat. It is berthed at Hartlepool, UK

Set sail into the past

Mumbai has had a flourishing shipbuilding industry for close to three centuries. Learn more about it at a lecture today

DALREEN RAMOS
dalreen.ramos@mid-day.com

FOR years, our city has made a name for its cotton trade and as a financial centre. But another accomplishment that isn't spoken about as much is its tryst with ships. The Bombay Dockyard was set up in 1736 and since then, has been at the forefront of a thriving shipbuilding industry. And it will be addressed in detail this evening at an online lecture by Commander Ninad Phatarphekar (retired).

An electrical engineer by training, Phatarphekar is on the managing committee of the Maritime Mumbai Museum Society, and has played a key role in establishing Dharohar — The Heritage Museum at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd. "Now the buzzword is 'Make in India' but it has been happening since the 18th century in Bombay, where ships built at the Bombay Dockyard by the British Navy have travelled all over the world," he states.

The one-hour lecture is being organised by Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya and The Museum Society of Mumbai. Phatarphekar will also touch upon the different types of ships that were built and famous ones that have sailed into history books because of their exploits. "We have built more than 600 ships in nearly three decades — that itself is a huge deal, I would say, because a vast number of people have found employment here," he adds.

HMS Trincomalee, built at Bombay Dockyard. (inset) Ninad Phatarphekar

Did you know?

- In the 18th century, ships had wooden hulls. The wood used was Malabar teak that was found to be superior to English oak, which was used previously.
- The workmanship of the Wadias, the head naval architects in the dockyard, became world-renowned. Some of them saw a century of service.
- The journey from India to England would take six months. But an overland route soon emerged, reducing the travel time to three months. When the Suez Canal was opened in 1869, the time was further reduced to approximately two months. So, Bombay became the gateway to India, and that changed the fortunes of the city.

FREE from Today, 5.30 pm
LOG ON TO <https://tinyurl.com/yxpgofw>



Dockyard Tales

From 1736, around 600 ships were built in the Bombay Dockyard," said Commander (Retd) Ninad Phatarphekar, member secretary of Maritime Mumbai Museum Society, who delivered a fascinating online talk on the 'Silver Nail—The History of Shipbuilding in Mumbai' on Saturday evening. The first ship to be built was HCS Drake. It was the master carpenter-ship builder, Lovji Nusserwanji Wadia, who made Bombay Dock world-renowned for its ships using Malabar teak. "Between 1736 and 1884, seven generations of the Wadias built over 200 ships in the Bombay Dock," he said. Among the clients were Bombay Marine, Madras Presidency, Calcutta Presidency, Viceroy of Goa, Imaum of Muscat and British Admiralty. Phatarphekar also revealed that 4,500 tonne of wood was used to build a 76-warship. Mumbai gained prominence as a cotton trading and commercial centre in mid-nineteenth century. The HMS Minden was the first Royal Navy ship built in Mumbai (1810), and it's claimed the Star Spangled Banner was conceived on-board in 1814.

How the British were shipped away

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Naval Uprising of 1946, which, according to Commander Ninad Phatarphekar (veteran), member secretary of the Maritime Mumbai Museum Society, was the final nail on the coffin for the British. The Maritime History Society along with MU has been hosting an online seminar since yesterday to commemorate the Uprising. About the episode, Phatarphekar recalled: "All along, the British used Indians to police their countrymen. This uprising was sparked off in Bombay Harbour over some relatively minor issue of ill-treatment of sailors in the Royal Indian Navy, but fanned flames of revolt far and wide. That sent a message to the British that they couldn't use Indians in armed forces to control India, triggering their departure." To learn more, tune into the seminar at zcu.io/D7Lb.



View of the park



Commander Ninad Phatarphekar speaking at the seminar on the 75th anniversary of the Naval Uprising of 1946.



Building structure under construction at the site of the shipyard. The structure is a replica of the original building and will be used as a museum to display the history of the shipyard.