

August 2012

The Prime Minister has re-appointed Sir Robert Crawford CBE and Mrs Linda Hutchinson to the Board of the National Maritime Museum for a further four years, from 15 September 2012. Both were first appointed in 2008. The Prime Minister has also extended the current term of Mr Nigel Macdonald by six months, to 9 March 2013.

Biographical Details

Sir Robert Crawford was Director-General from 1995 to 2008 of the Imperial War Museum, in which he had served since 1968, and Chairman of the National Museum Directors Conference, 2001-2006. Now retired, he is Chairman of the Greenwich Foundation for the Old Royal Naval College and an unpaid trustee of a number of museums including the Horniman Museum and Gardens, National Museum of the Royal Navy, National Museums Liverpool, and Chatham Historic Dockyard. He is a Vice-Patron of the Army Museums Ogilby Trust and a Vice-President of the Federation of Merchant Mariners.

Linda Hutchinson was Head Teacher at the Townley Grammar School for Girls in Bexleyheath, a specialist school for the performing and visual arts. Before this, she served as Deputy Head Teacher at Beaverwood School for Girls in Chislehurst and as Senior Teacher at the Frances Bardsley School for Girls. Whilst Head Teacher, Townley Grammar School received the British Council's International Award for promoting international understanding in recognition of the work developing links with schools in India and China featuring the introduction of an exchange programme involving both students and teachers. She also successfully managed two building projects at the school, one of which is to be used by the National College of School Leaders as a model to encourage head teachers to consider sustainability in building projects. She holds no other public appointments.

Nigel Macdonald is a Director of Coca-Cola Hellenic and is also chairman of a retail company. He was a senior partner in Ernst and Young for many years, retiring in 2003. He is a past President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland and was a member of the Cadbury Committee. Until 2005 he was a member of the Competition Commission and from 1992 until 2004 a member of the BSI Board, and Chairman of its Audit Committee. Until 2011 he was a member of the Audit Board of the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund and an advisor to that organisation. He holds no other public appointments.

Background

The National Maritime Museum at Greenwich is the largest maritime museum in the world and it includes the Queen's House, the Royal Observatory, Greenwich as well as operating the Cutty Sark. The Museum is open 362 days a year and in 2011–12 it welcomed over 1.8 million visits from Britain and around the world.

The Museum receives funding from the taxpayer via Grant-in-Aid through the Department for Culture Media and Sport, with additional income derived from trading activity, donations and sponsorship.

In 2011–12, it had an annual income of some £32 million and a staff of 439 full time equivalents, under the Board of Trustees, the Director, and an Executive. They uphold diversity and equal opportunities for all.

The Museum is unique in the architectural significance and setting of its main buildings. The 17th-century Queen's House, designed by Inigo Jones and probably the most important early classical building in England, is the keystone of the historic 'park and place' landscape of maritime Greenwich, which was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site (WHS) in 1997. Flamsteed House (1675-76), the original part of the Royal Observatory, was designed by Sir Christopher Wren and was the first purpose-built scientific research facility in Britain.

In 2012 the Museum sits alongside the London Games' equestrian venue and at the heart of the special atmosphere and activity generated by the Olympics. It has also been pleased to mark Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee year with *Royal River: Power, Pageantry and the Thames*, a special exhibition reflecting the many connections between the British Royal Family and London's river.

Trustees of the National Maritime Museum are unpaid but reasonable expenses are reimbursed. Appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process. However, in accordance with the original Nolan recommendations, there is a requirement for political activity in the United Kingdom in the past five years (if any declared) to be made public. Sir Robert, Mrs Hutchinson and Mr Macdonald have declared no such political activity.