

# Trying to not sink - Managing water on ships

## Organizer

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## Session Description

The purpose of this session is to discuss the multiple ways vessels were designed to not sink. The importance of water management is paramount in keeping ships afloat. From the moment water gets on the decks or through the hull it is primordial to make it leave the board, as the impact on floatability could soon make the ship go under. Amongst the themes that would be discussed are the ship building, sheathing and repairs materials and techniques, the sheer and waterproofness of the decks and hull, the design, composition and positions of scuppers and limber channels, to get the water overboard or to the sink, and the final solution, the pumps themselves. Following a master's degree on ship bilge pumps close to 20 years ago, it would be interesting to share what archaeological and historical research have brought forward to these subjects and to our understanding of water management on board ships and the impacts it had on the sailors.

## Keywords

Underwater Archaeology; Shipwrecks; Water Management; Pumps; Calk