



United Kingdom
Hydrographic Office

Admiralty Way, Taunton, Somerset
TA1 2DN, United Kingdom
Telephone +44 (0)1823 484444
customerservices@ukho.gov.uk
gov.uk/ukho

UK World Hydrography Day Celebration

Led by the United Kingdom Hydrographic Office (UKHO), the UK was proud to support World Hydrography Day to highlight the importance of hydrography. A United Nations-endorsed recognition of the vital role of hydrography in supporting safe navigation and sustainable use of the world's seas, oceans and waterways.

Once again, the UKHO hosted two separate events to celebrate World Hydrography Day. Both events celebrated the theme: 'Mapping our seas, oceans and waterways - more important than ever'.

The first event was a local community day held in the UKHO's home town of Taunton, Somerset. This took place during the school holidays in June, aiming to explain hydrography and the work of the UKHO to children and families.

The second event took place in London in July. The UKHO was joined by colleagues and partners from the hydrographic community to a special reception held at Lancaster House.

World Hydrography Day Event, Taunton, Somerset June 2017

Hundreds of local people visited the UKHO's free family event in June to learn more about the mapping of the world's seas, oceans and waterways, as part of World Hydrography Day 2017.

Held at the Museum of Somerset in Taunton, the event included lots of different interactive zones to explain the role of hydrography in our daily lives. UKHO experts, including experienced mariners and hydrographers, were on hand to answer questions and assist with a series of fun experiments and activities. Visitors had the chance to learn how a hydrographic chart is created, how billions of toys make it to the shelves and more, with a treasure hunt, Navy display and Lego boat building for younger children.

Alia Weir, Head of Corporate and Marketing Communications, UKHO said: "the UKHO is passionate about the importance of hydrography and we love explaining how we all depend on our ability to accurately map the world's seas, oceans and waterways. We're proud to be part of the community here in Taunton and it was great to see so many adults and children join us at the Museum of Somerset to mark World Hydrography Day and to learn more about what we do at the UKHO to support global shipping, trade, defence and the marine environment."





World Hydrography Day Reception, Lancaster House, London July 2017

Rear Admiral Tim Lowe, UK National Hydrographer and Deputy Chief Executive of the UKHO, spoke of the relevance of this theme 'Mapping our seas, oceans and waterways - more important than ever' to the work of the UKHO:

"This year's World Hydrography Day theme has tremendous synergy with the work we undertake at the UKHO on a daily business and with Government initiatives designed to aid the development of sustainable marine economic growth, nationally as well as worldwide. Our knowledge of the shape, nature and depth of the seafloor is a fundamental requirement for the proper, safe, sustainable and cost-effective use of the world's seas, oceans and waterways."

The occasion was also used to present the Alexander Dalrymple Award for 2017 to Mr Adam Greenland, National Hydrographer, Land Information New Zealand. The Alexander Dalrymple Award is given by the UKHO in recognition of an outstanding contribution to world hydrography. First presented in 2006, it is named in honour of the first Hydrographer of the Royal Navy in 1795.

Adam Greenland is the twelfth recipient of the Alexander Dalrymple Award. Educated at the University of East London and the University of Greenwich, and a former Merchant Mariner, Adam Greenland is a Chartered Surveyor who has been with Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) since 2005.

RAdm Tim Lowe commended Mr Greenland's leading contribution towards New Zealand's fulfilment of its SOLAS (Safety of Life at Sea) responsibilities, his work as a member of the IHO/FIG/ICA International Board of Standards of Competence, setting and reviewing the minimum international standards of competence for hydrographic surveyors and nautical cartographers, and his role as a driving force in the Pacific Region Navigation Initiative (PRNI).

RAdm Lowe also paid tribute to the work of the IHO's long-serving former President and outgoing General Secretary, Robert Ward, with a presentation to thank him for his contribution to the work of the International Hydrographic Community, both during his Presidency and as General Secretary of the IHO.

