

1 [Warsash Maritime Academy News - WMA Website](#)

1.1 [Latest Scale Manned Model Joins the Fleet](#)

Solent's new Chancellor, Theo Paphitis, joined Deputy Vice-Chancellor Julie Hall to officially name the latest vessel to join the country's largest fleet of scale manned models at our world-renowned Ship Handling Centre. Eternity is a 10-metre model representative of an Aframax-sized ship – a medium sized oil tanker designed to fit through the Panama Canal.

The 1:25 scale ship model joins the existing fleet of 10 vessels that are used for training ship's officers and pilots in the art and practise of ship handling on the purpose built 10-acre inland freshwater lake at Timsbury, near Romsey.

Eternity was designed and built by Gosport-based QinetiQ, who are also in the process of constructing a second vessel, representing a Suezmax-sized ship – the largest tanker able to transit the Suez Canal when fully laden. Commenting on the new model, Julie Hall said: "This valuable addition to the fleet demonstrates our continued commitment to and investment in our world-renowned maritime facilities and training.



"Ships are getting larger and waterways and ports more crowded, so scale model training is more important than ever." These scaled vessels are part of the University's ongoing multi-million pound investment in maritime training provision.

1.2 [New WMA Maritime Simulation Centre](#)

WMA has announced that the contract has been signed for the delivery of our new maritime simulation centre. The contract has been agreed with Wärtsilä, a global leader in smart technologies and complete lifecycle solutions for the marine and energy markets. Scheduled for completion in spring 2019, the new facility will be the largest ship and port simulation training centre in the UK and is the next big step forward in Solent's Warsash School of Maritime, Science and Engineering wider investment plans.

Syamantak Bhattacharya, Dean of the School, said: "The simulation centre will be a central pillar of our maritime education, training and research programme and we are pleased to be able to call on the global experience and extensive industry knowledge from Wärtsilä as the project now gets underway. Wärtsilä see this project as their UK showcase and I'm delighted at the level of product innovation this will bring to the University," Syamantak continued.

The new marine simulation centre will provide a state of the art facility with: six full-mission navigational bridges; engine simulator and HV training; GMDSS training; liquid cargo handling simulator; crane operation simulator; four multi-purpose desktop simulation classrooms; four debriefing rooms/classrooms; unrestricted access to Wärtsilä ship models and navigational areas.

The centre will also offer the opportunity for several new specialist training courses, including: Dynamic positioning, Vessel traffic management, Offshore and onshore crane handling, ice navigation and integrated navigation/ engine/liquid cargo training.

1.3 [WMA 2018 Deck Cadet of the Year Felix Amoreth](#)

Felix Amoreth was one of the three Officer Cadets who attended our 2017 UK Christmas Lunch (Ed.). Felix, WMA's 2018 Deck Cadet of the Year, tells how he got involved in maritime, the challenges of life at sea, and where his career is taking him.

'Before coming to Warsash Maritime Academy I was a maths teacher in Angola, but I got a scholarship from a major oil company to study instrumentation. I travelled to South Africa, where I was supposed to start this training, but after a year the company advised me that studying nautical sciences would suit me best, as they needed marine expertise.



I was a little reluctant in taking the advice as this would change all my plans, but in the end I accepted the challenge!

Do you feel like your studies helped you to prepare for a career in the industry? It was very difficult for me to adapt at first, in a new study environment and in a new country where the language constituted a barrier. The combination of tuition phases and sea phases really helped me – first to figure out if this is what I really want to do, and second to better understand the career at sea. When I qualified as a deck officer, I knew that I was ready to go out and get a job as an officer.

What was the best thing about your tutors and lecturers? The thing about the lecturers and tutors which differs from the lecturers I used to have at college, apart from their professionalism and experience, is their connection with the students. They were very social people and always keen to help. They would answer any question, help with doubt or worries before exams, or even during my sea phases. They treated us as proper seafarers already, like peers.

What was your first sea phase like? Was it what you expected? My first sea phase was a real challenge. Because of my background I knew almost nothing about the industry – I'd never been at sea nor even in a single cross-channel ferry. I was like a blank piece of paper. After spending a few months in preparation for my first sea phase, I went straight on board a ship, not knowing much. Officers on board expected me know lots, but I wasn't meeting their expectations. I got shouted at, I got angry, I cried...

I was about to give everything up, but I remembered that I had accepted the challenge and I was there through a scholarship programme which wasn't easy to get in my country. So I had to motivate myself and find ways to overcome all the storms! I started reading more books, asking more questions and learning from everyone and any activity. I was getting along with officers and the crew. In the end I started enjoying being at sea and I got a nice performance report.

What was your favourite memory from your time at Warsash?

I made a few very good friends, both lecturers and students, but my favourite memory was participating in the Sail4Cancer liferaft challenge – spending 24 hours stuck in a liferaft out on the river. It was a great experience, and great to raise money for a good cause.

Did the Academy or University give you any help, support or advice when you needed it? Both the Academy and the University helped me in various ways. The biggest help was when I changed my surname and I needed to get a new biometric residence permit – I got help right from the very start of the process until I finally got the permit.

What did it feel like to pass out from the Academy? How was your passing out ceremony? What seemed to be impossible, I'd finally accomplished: being a merchant navy officer. It was never something I planned before coming to Solent, but slowly became part of my life and my goals. At the passing out ceremony, the actual feeling of becoming an officer, with family, friends and relatives to behold the great achievement of ours... it was indeed a great ceremony. And six months after my passing out ceremony, I was invited back to receive an annual award: Deck Officer Cadet of the Year 2018. For someone who had lots of difficulties and uncertainty at the start of the course, it was a proud moment.

Where has your career so far taken you? As a cadet I have been almost everywhere: around Europe, America, Asia, the Middle East and Australia. The most memorable place I have been to was Istanbul. There was a very nice view when crossing the Turkish Straits, and I was the one driving a 63,000-tonne oil tanker through, under the command of a pilot, with a current of seven knots against us. I got some good shots while passing through Turkey to the Black Sea – after changing the man on the wheel, of course!

What tips would you give to someone wanting a career in maritime? This is a challenging and demanding industry. It takes nothing from you; it gives you qualities and abilities which make you capable of facing any trouble or difficulty in any area of your life.

If you want a career in this industry, confidence, courage, humility, respect, teamwork, initiative are a few of the important qualities to have. However, don't worry! You will develop them anyway, if you're keen. Knowledge and experience come with time and dedication!"

1.4 WMA Officer Cadets at RBL Festival of Remembrance

Five Warsash cadets represented the Merchant Navy in the services muster at the Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance on Saturday at the Royal Albert Hall on 10th November.

They were (L to R):

- Arthur Slack (FD Deck, Chiltern Maritime sponsored by Maritime Educational Foundation)
- Lindsay Johnstone – Jan16 FD Deck – sponsored by Princess Cruises
- Calum Wright – Jan 16 HND Deck – Chiltern Maritime sponsored by Maritime London
- Claire Allan – Jan 16 HND Deck – V Ships sponsored by X-Press Feeders
- Clive Austin – Jan 16 FD Deck – SSTG sponsored by Evergreen Marine (UK) Ltd



