

Alan Villiers Memorial Lecture

under the auspices of

The Society for Nautical Research, The Naval Review and the Britannia Naval Research Association

Naval Power and the World Question : geopolitics, technology and the rise of the West

**Professor Jeremy Black MA PhD FRSA,
University of Exeter**

**St Edmund's Hall, University of Oxford
at noon on
Wednesday 29th September 2010**

This new series of lectures commemorates **Captain Alan Villiers**, whose long career at sea included service in merchant vessels at the end of the age of sail and in the Royal Navy during the Second World War. In addition to recording contemporary maritime life in his books and photography, Villiers was also instrumental in creating a renewed interest in maritime history, notably with his television programmes and the reconstruction of the *Mayflower* and its voyage across the Atlantic in the 1950s.

The first speaker in the series, **Jeremy Black**, Professor of History at the University of Exeter, will be known to many scholars of military, political and maritime history. His many books include *Naval Power* (2009), *The War of 1812 in the Age of Napoleon* (2009), *The British Seaborne Empire* (2004), *Maps and History* (1997) and *A Military Revolution? Military Change and European Society 1550-1800* (1991). Graduating from Cambridge with a starred first, Black did postgraduate work at Oxford, and then taught at Durham, eventually as professor, before moving to Exeter in 1996. He has lectured extensively in Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, New Zealand, and the USA, where he has held visiting chairs at West Point, Texas Christian University, and Stillman College.

A past Council member of the Royal Historical Society, Black is a Fellow of the Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce, and a Senior Fellow of the Foreign Policy Research Institute. He was appointed OBE for services to stamp design. He is or has been on a number of editorial boards including the *Journal of Military History*, the journal of the Royal United Services Institute, and *History Today* and was editor of *Archives*.

Professor Black's lecture attends to the importance of naval power in the rise of Western states, but his theme will also have relevance to the understanding of contemporary geopolitics and maritime issues in our changing world today.

**Tickets £26.50 for lecture and lunch, £10 for lecture only
by cheque to
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