

National Marine Facilities

Stuart Younghusband – Head of Ship Compliance

The National Oceanography Centre operate on behalf of **UK Research & Innovation** two global multi-disciplinary research vessels the RRS *Discovery* and the RRS *James Cook*.

Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) has been incorporated into **UK Research and Innovation**. This public body, is the bringing together of seven UK research councils (NERC being one) as well as a new Organisation (Research England) and also Innovate UK.



National Marine Facilities

Ships Program 17/18

RRS Discovery :

Started the year with exped between Newfoundland and Greenland –North Atlantic\Labrador Sea with the expedition ending in Southampton

Bottom sampling via Coring, sea water sampling and Habitat mapping via use of our ROV

Mapping Also undertaken by use of deployed glider



23 day refit in Amsterdam in August 2017. (3 year contract for both vessels signed with Damen ship repair yards).

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Ships Program 17/18

RRS Discovery :

43 day AMT (Atlantic Meridional Transect) cruise from Southampton ending in Falkland Islands. Primarily water column work with CTD casts to 1000 metres. This was AMT 27 that has been providing data for 20 years now.

South Atlantic work from October 2017 until May 2018 with work south of 60 degrees(Polar Code) First time some of our Navigators experienced Bergs,bergy bits or growlers

Work involved Seismics, Coring and Dredging as well as bathymetry, studying impacts of deglaciation and tectonic plate movement



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Ships Program 17/18

RRS Discovery :

Passage to Namibia with a 36 day cruise in Namibian waters May 2018 (*new 2017 Namibian customs regulations now means we have to temporarily import the ship “into” Namibia and pay Namibian VAT on consumables/fuel consumed during this time*)

35 day refit at Damen shipyard Cape Town – 5 year special docking - One month standby and trials in Cape Town

Passage to Santos Brazil then 3 week cruise off Brazil at the Rio Grande Rise.

– A combined ROV and Autosub 6000 expedition –potential of ferromanganese deposits of the Rio Grande Rise



Passage back to Chile and commence work in South Atlantic until Mid May 2019

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Ships Program

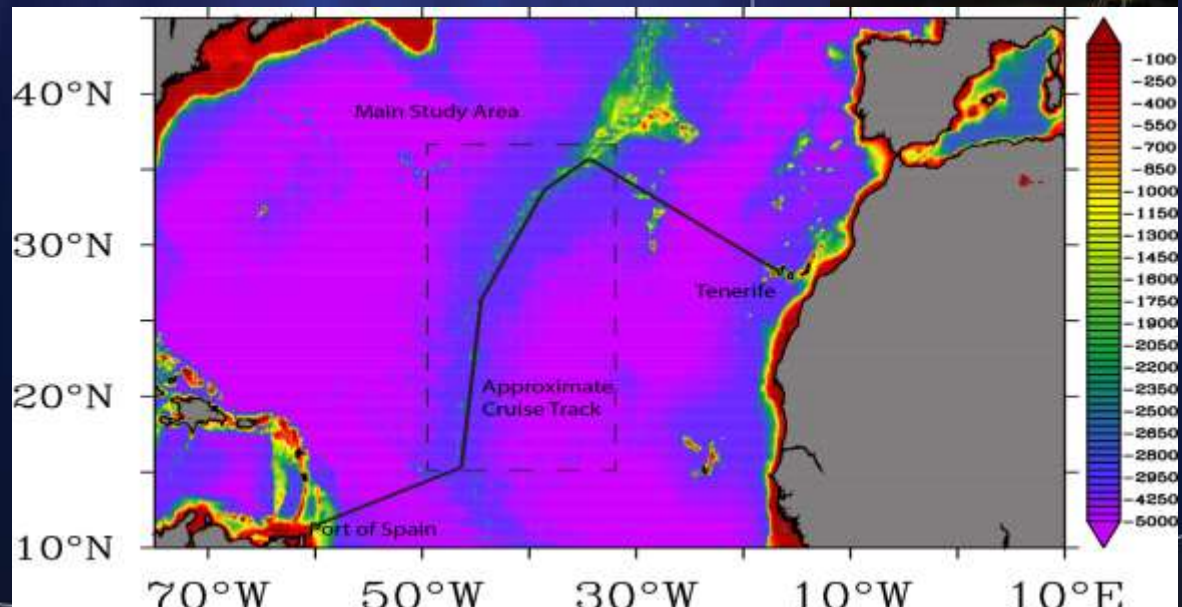
RRS *James Cook*:

46 day cruise in Caribbean August 2017

27 day refit at Damen Amsterdam with 33 days post refit trials. New winch control system fitted in refit

43 day cruise from Southampton to Guadeloupe/Caribbean

CTDs 4 to 5000 metres



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Ships Program

RRS James Cook :

16 day passage to Rio de Janeiro then 42 day cruise ~ 24 degrees South across to Namibia & Cape Town Exped JC 159 - over 120 CTD casts

28 day Passage from Cape Town to UK

Then 24 day PAP cruise SW approaches, 18 day Haig Frais cruise North UK, 21 day refit Amsterdam and 14 day post refit trials

Current plan is for James Cook to return to Southampton December 2018 for a number of months – final program to be confirmed

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RRS “*James Cook*” Science Cruise JC159 24 degrees South – Rio de Janeiro to Walvis Bay



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National Marine Facilities

17/18 Achievements

VSAT service increased to 1MB up/1MB down – resulting in a superior service to the science community

Close liaison with UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office with a number of high profile functions in Port Stanley/Falklands, Punta Arenas/Chile & Rio De Janerio/Brazil

Brazilian DipCLear received for *James Cook* – only the second time received for our vessels – almost 250 years after British explorer James Cook called at the port on his voyage of discovery.



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17/18 Achievements



Polar Code certificate for RRS Discovery via Lloyds Register- prolonged process with legislators still learning and putting items in place themselves.

Boaty McBoatface first successful mission under the ice for 51 hours under 550 metre thick ice.



Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting live link to RRS James Cook off of South Africa



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Looking forward to the 18/19 program – actual program to be confirmed

- James Cook :

Possible Geomar barter cruise December 2018

Period of 'standby' until program confirmed – possibly 3 months in Southampton.

Potential work in the Congo basin

- Discovery:

Continues with work in South Atlantic

DipCLear required for Brazil

Work around Ascension Islands & Tristan Da Cunha

- Office – move to Ownership & Governance, becoming a ' *Charity Limited by guarantee with a trading arm*' – moving away from the Public sector. Still ongoing and a very slow process.....now expected to happen November 2018.

- Replacement finance and procurement functions being sourced

- **And a continued commitment to collaboration with other parties or pursuit of science based charter opportunities where appropriate**