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THE JOURNAL OF NAVIGATION

The *Journal* is published three times a year by Cambridge University Press and is edited by M. W. Richey. It contains original papers contributing to the science of navigation, including those presented at the meetings of the Institute together with the ensuing discussion. In addition the *Journal* includes a record of current navigational work, reviews of important books, and other matters of concern to those interested in navigation. The views expressed in the *Journal* are not necessarily those of the Institute, or of any organization or department to which the authors may belong. Crown Copyright may be reserved.

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Institute Notice Board

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members will appreciate that the Institute is critically dependent on the income from subscriptions. These are due on 1 July and prompt payment is very much appreciated. This year, as this notice goes to press, a number for 1983/1984 are still outstanding. If payment has slipped your mind please send off your £21 as soon as possible.

The Institute is not liable to income tax and the Inland Revenue will refund to the Institute any income tax that has already been paid on annual contributions, provided they are paid under four-year covenant. By agreeing to subscribe in this way Members can give great help to the Institute, at very little trouble and no expense to themselves.

Council's decision on the rate of subscription for 1984/1985 is set out in an insert to this number of the Journal.

THE OFFICERS AND COUNCIL

The Officers and the Council are elected annually from among Members of the Institute by ballot at the Annual General Meeting (By-law 24). Any two Members may nominate any Member or Members either for Office or ordinary service on the Council. The list of persons so nominated must be delivered to the Director before 15 April each year. In recent years no such nominations have been received the President and Council are anxious that this trend should end and that in future there will be competition for election. Nominations should be in accordance with By-law 28.

YOUNG NAVIGATORS COMPETITION

The scope of this annual competition is very wide. It is for young people (under 18) interested in navigation. Any activity that includes movement from one place to another – potholing, climbing, sailing, flying, walking – requires navigation and anyone who takes part in these activities is already a navigator. But all forms of navigation qualify – from say, bird navigation, or how Columbus discovered America to navigating to the Moon. Neither previous experience nor expert knowledge is needed to win.

The judges take age and opportunity fully into account. Many previous winners of prizes have been between 8 and 12 years old and from youth organizations.

All competitors are invited to a special prize-giving meeting at the end of the year which includes talks by eminent navigators. Prizes in the past have included binoculars, a round trip in a warship or a merchant ship and a flight in Concorde.

The closing date for entries is 1 October 1984 and entry forms are available from the Institute. Members are asked to give this competition the widest publicity.

A LIBRARY OF NAVIGATION

Efforts continue to be made to develop a Library of Navigation. The Director would be pleased to hear from any Member who would be prepared to spend some time assessing the present collection and investigating how best to proceed.

INSTITUTE TIE

The Institute tie, which displays the Arctic tern from the emblem in white on a dark-blue terylene background (single under knot or all-over), is available from the Office at £6 including postage.

THE MERSEYSIDE BRANCH

Poor attendances at Merseyside Branch meetings have brought into question its continued viability. In an attempt to revitalize the branch, the present Officers and Committee will stand down at the Annual General Meeting to be held at Liverpool Polytechnic, Byrom Street, at 1800 hours on Thursday, 18 October 1984. This action will pave the way for the injection of new blood and fresh ideas into branch activities.

It is important that Members living in the Merseyside area should attend this meeting to indicate their support for a Branch in the area. If you are unable to attend the Annual General Meeting but feel that you have something to contribute towards branch activities, or wish to make known your views, please contact:

The Honorary Secretary
RIN Merseyside Branch
c/o Department of Maritime Studies
Liverpool Polytechnic
Byrom Street
Liverpool L3 3AF

Membership of the local branch is not restricted to Institute Members. In an attempt to involve the large number of yachtsmen in the area in branch activities the Annual General Meeting will be followed at 1900 hours by a lecture entitled 'Tactical Navigation in Offshore Racing', given by S. Quarrie. Mr Quarrie is the Deputy Director and Chief Sailing Instructor at the National Sailing Centre, Cowes, and is a recognized expert in this field.

CENTENARY OF GREENWICH AS THE PRIME MERIDIAN: STAMP ISSUE AND FIRST-DAY COVER

The Post Office is issuing a set of stamps to mark the Centenary of Greenwich as the Prime Meridian and the Royal Institute of Navigation has commissioned its own first-day cover. This will incorporate the Institute's emblem and will be available with a single stamp depicting a chart, or with the set of stamps.

The stamps will be affixed to the first-day cover and will be officially franked by the Post Office with a First Day of Issue Pictorial Postmark at Greenwich. This will be a limited edition and will be keenly sought by philatelic collectors. As the edition cannot be repeated, early ordering is strongly advised – the prices are at a special reduced rate for Members and readers of the Journal:

First-day cover with (1) single stamp: £1.00
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IL COMPASSO - CARTA DEL MEDITERRANEO - CARTA DETTA FISANA DEL 1275 CIRCA - CM. 104 X 50.

Frontispiece The Carta Pisana (104 x 50 cm). An article on the oldest portolan chart is printed at p. 194