

PROGRAMME

FRIDAY 8 OCTOBER

REUNION DINNER

Dinner will be held in the Gateshead Suite. A wine-ordering service will be open from 18.00 in the foyer. There will be a four-course menu, with dietary alternatives for those who have requested them. We meet from 19.00 and dinner will be announced at 19.45 for 20.00. Dress: Jacket & Tie.

We shall have as a welcome guest this year Sirdhana's bell, brought along by Sandy Bowman, who was 2nd Mate when she went to scrap in 1972. It has been used at all his children's and grandchildren's christenings and will be on display during the evening. As usual we welcome souvenirs and flags with which to decorate the room so if you have any suitable items please bring them along and help make this a real BI occasion.

You will no doubt be aware that *Nevasa, British India's Centenary Ship* has now been published by the ss Uganda Trust and copies will be on sale at the reunion, price £25. The book contains many contributions from BI staff and passengers and is a unique study of a ship and way of life that is no more. I can thoroughly recommend this book as an enjoyable and moving tribute to a much-loved ship.

SATURDAY 9 OCTOBER

TOUR OF TRINITY HOUSE

The tour starts at 10.30. It is a 15-minute walk from the Hilton Hotel so all attendees should meet in the hotel foyer at 10.00. Entrance fees will be collected on Saturday morning.

Contact: John King: tel 01670 825916; email: john.king63@btopenworld.com.

TYNE RIVER CRUISE

Quay to Sea three-hour riverboat cruise, boarding from 15.30 and departing at 16.00 from Newcastle Quayside Pier (Pitcher & Piano) with BI-accented commentary by a City Guide. This journey back in time takes us downriver through the Millennium Bridge, symbol of the modern city, to the 11th Century Benedictine Priory at Tynemouth. We pass the areas where throughout most of the 20th century many BI ships were built by Swan Hunter, Hawthorn Leslie and others – 53 between 1904–1972 – including Amra, Aronda, Chakdina, Chindwara, Dwarka, Ellenga, Manora, Morvada, Palikonda, Sirdhana, Talma and Zaida to name but a few. A hot buffet meal will be served on the return half of the journey.

We return at 19.00 and the bar remains open until 19.30 with disembarkation by 20.00. Due to the popularity of the cruise we shall now be using the Latis, the largest vessel in River Escapes' fleet, which can accommodate up to 150 passengers. On the main deck there are covered and open areas and a lounge with comfortable seating. On the lower deck there is a bar with further seating areas. The bar serves draft and bottled beers, wines, spirits and soft drinks. There are toilets on both levels.

SUNDAY 10 OCTOBER

CURRY LUNCH

The final event of the weekend is the traditional BI Curry Lunch. This will be held in the **Windows on the Tyne Restaurant** from 12.30. This is a buffet-style service and as table sizes vary there will be no formal seating plan. As usual there will be selection of curries, meat, fish and vegetables of varying strengths, which will be served along with the usual accompaniments. A suitable alternative meal will be provided for those who have requested it on the original booking form.