



Balance cock, engraved 'Massey Patent', on a previously unrecorded seconds beating watch by Edward Massey, Prescott, hallmarked Chester 1821. Photograph Charles Frodsham & Co.

AHS ANNUAL MEETING 2018 – KEELE UNIVERSITY

The year 2018 will mark the 250th anniversary of the birth of Edward Massey, a significant and important inventor of a range of horological and nautical devices. While he is perhaps best known to horologists for the series of detached lever escapements he patented in 1812–14, what is less well appreciated is the depth and breadth of his contribution to the development and refinement of scientific instruments used across a range of disciplines, supporting astronomers as well as sea captains.

The Annual Meeting will be based at the conference centre at Keele University in Staffordshire (<https://www.keele-conference.com/>).

This two-day event, and the associated exhibition and other visits/events in the Manchester/Liverpool area following the Keele weekend, celebrate the contribution of Edward Massey and his numerous family to the field of precision scientific instruments, as well as exploring the regional context of South-West Lancashire as an important location for manufacture and development, and a base from which significant export traffic occurred.

There will be a series of lectures across Saturday and Sunday morning, and an (optional) banquet on the Saturday evening. A range of ticket options will be on offer. On Sunday afternoon delegates will be able to make a number of interesting excursions. One of these could be to the highly relevant exhibition at Merseyside's prestigious Kirkby Gallery, entitled 'Time, Astronomy & Navigation – An Exhibition Commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the Birth of Edward Massey in 1768'.

We hope to gather delegates from all over the world for this weekend and the associated events, and we have identified some suitable accommodation, which you will need to book yourself. The cost of the full conference programme and banquet is £165 per person. We have a limit on the number of delegates we can accommodate and it will be important to make a reservation. To receive an information pack and booking details, please send an email to 2018agm@ahsoc.org or contact the Ticehurst office.

Innovations in Science, Technology and Navigation – The Legacy of the Massey Family and South-West Lancashire

A Conference to Commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the Birth of Edward Massey (1768–1852)

SATURDAY 12 MAY 2018

- Alan Treherne – The Massey family: a biographical overview
- David Penney – Edward Massey and the ‘Liverpool lever’ watch
- Andrew King – The Masseys: ingenious mechanics and inventors

LUNCH

- AGM
- Will Ashworth – Innovation in science, technology and navigation: the role of the state and national institutions
- John Griffiths – Precision horology and high quality affordable watches: the essential tools, materials and skills from south-west Lancashire
- Richard Dunn – The Massey family as designers and makers of nautical instruments: patent logs, sounders and thermometers

EVENING BANQUET with a special lecture by AHS President Patricia Fara – A brief history of magnetic time

SUNDAY 13 MAY 2018

- Gilbert Kelling – Full Fathom Five: Timekeeping and related techniques in the evolution of modern oceanography
- Paul Marston – The legacy of Jeremiah Horrocks
- Michael Edidin – Massey in America: Liverpool exports of Massey escapement watches
- Afternoon local excursions possible



Edward Massey's ship's log of about 1830 in the collections of the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich. Photograph NMM.