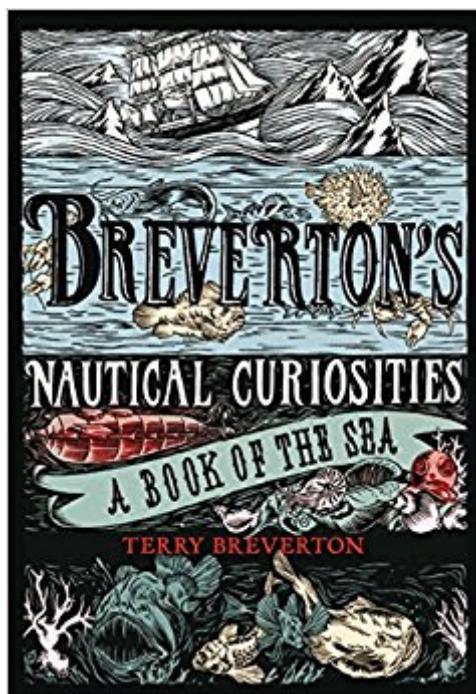


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Breverton's Nautical Curiosities: A Book Of The Sea



Synopsis

Breverton's Nautical Curiosities is arranged into thematic chapters: 1) The ocean environment — animals, geography, geology, weather, coasts, islands 2) Ship types and parts — from the first boat to the latest cutting-edge technology 3) People — heroes, heroines, pirates, sailors, captains 2) 4) Disasters, battles, wars 3) 5) Literature — stories, myths, legends, proclamations, acts, orders 4) 6) Nautical sayings and slang

Breverton's Nautical Curiosities is about ships, people and the sea. However, unlike many other nautical compendiums, the focus of this book is on the unusual, the overlooked or the downright extraordinary. Thus, someone most of us do not know, Admiral William Brown, is given equal coverage to Admiral Nelson. Without Admiral Brown releasing Garibaldi, modern Italy might not exist. And without the barely known genius John Ericsson designing the Monitor, the Confederacy might have won the American Civil War. Readers will be stimulated to read more about the remarkable men — explorers, admirals and trawermen — who have shaped our world. The sea has had a remarkable effect upon our language. We hear the terms *steer clear of*, *hit the deck*, *don't rock the boat*, *to harbour a grudge* and the like, and give little thought to them. In the pages of this book, the reader will find the origin of 'bumpkin', a 'brace of shakes', 'born with a silver spoon', 'booby prize', 'to take on board', 'above board', 'bombed' (in the sense of being drunk), the 'blues', 'blind-side', 'blind drunk', 'the pot calling the kettle black', 'reach the bitter end', 'wasters', 'ahoy', 'all at sea', 'to keep aloof', 'piss-artist', 'taken aback', 'barbecue' and 'bamboozle'. Other colourful terms, which have passed out of common usage, such as 'bring one's arse to anchor' (sit down), 'belly timber' (food) and 'bog orange' (potato) are also included, as well as important pirate haunts, technical terms, famous battles, maritime inventors and ship speed records.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Terry Breverton is the author of numerous books on the sea and pirates, including The Pirate Dictionary, The Pirate Handbook, and Black Bart Roberts: The Greatest Pirate of Them All, A five-time recipient of the Welsh Books Council's Book of the Month award, he has presented documentaries on the Discovery Channel and the History Channel, and has appeared on numerous other television programs on pirates and privateers. He lives in the United Kingdom.

What a cool book! Who ever thought to write a neat compilation of Nautical facts, trivia of historical nature, and tales, was very clever! I have a father who is exceptionally hard to shop-for-a gift-for! He seems to have EVERYTHING that he wants, ALREADY! Well, when I asked him if he'd heard of this book, after I saw it, and he answered: "No", I KNEW I wanted to get it for him! He has a love of sailing and the boating the seas now that he is retired and, this NAILED IT ! Would recommend!

This book is full of all kinds of obscure facts and tidbits from a maritime past that most people never realized influence us to this day. Mostly in our English language a lot of which we get from things used years ago on ships. Very easy to read a bit and put down without missing a beat.

We stumbled upon this book at the Oddysea store in Half Moon Bay, and my husband couldn't put it down. I got it for him as a Christmas gift, and he has enjoyed it. It quickly became a coffee table book in our nautical themed living room, and guests tend to enjoy it as well. I highly recommend it.

Working in the maritime industry I hear all kinds of sayings that I have no idea how or where they originate, now with this book, many are explained which is interesting!

Great little coffee table book for our beach house. Interesting cover and lots of little factoids you can either pick up and skim or actually sit down and read through. Not sure if its the accurate answer but the idea that irish step dancing might have originated from sailors was an interesting tidbit.

Very well laid out. Great for a quick read on occasion or to sit down for a longer period. Lots of fun information to enjoy and share.

Great stories. You'll enjoy spending time reading them!

Covering random factoids, this is just a fun read for any nautical lover.

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