

HMS Beagle

Research Guide

Prepared by the ANMM Vaughn Evans Library

HMS Beagle is best known as the ship on which naturalist Charles Darwin sailed during 1831 to 1836. As a survey ship the *Beagle* undertook significant work in Australian waters. Find information resources on the ship, Darwin's voyage and the people who undertook it and accounts of other voyages.

Some books from our collection to get started with your research

About the Beagle

HMS Beagle : the story of Darwin's ship. By Keith Stewart Thomson ; drawings by Townsend Moore. London Phoenix, c2003. 508.0924 DAR A detailed history of the Beagle and ship's company.

HMS Beagle : survey ship extraordinary By Karl Heinz Marquardt. London Conway Maritime Press, 1997 623.822 MAR This book in the Anatomy of the ship series gives detailed instructions on how to build a model of the Beagle.

Darwin's voyage and it's significance

The voyage of the Beagle : Darwin's extraordinary adventure in Fitzroy's famous survey ship By James Taylor. London Conway, 2008 508.0924 DAR This new publication covers the origin and design of HMS Beagle - Robert Fitzroy : Evolution's captain - Fitzroy's officers and crew - Charles Darwin : naturalist and companion - The art of surveying the sea - Earle & Martens : Fitzroy's painting men - The legacy of the Beagle.

Darwin and the Beagle by Alan Moorehead Ringwood Penguin Books, 1970 508.0924 DAR

In the wake of the Beagle : science in the southern oceans from the age of Darwin Edited By Iain McCalman, Nigel Erskine. Sydney UNSW Press, 2009. Not yet published

Darwin's armada : how four voyagers to Australasia won the battle for evolution and changed the world By Iain McCalman. - Camberwell Viking, 2009. 508.0924 DAR This new publication looks at Darwin, Huxley, Hooker and Wallace and how they forged the Darwinian revolution in Australasia.

Accounts of voyages in the Beagle

Narrative of the surveying voyages of His Majesty's ships, Adventure and Beagle, Vol. 1 : Proceedings of the first expedition, 1826-1830, under command of Captain P. Parker King New York : AMS Press, 1966. 508.0924 DAR

Narrative of the surveying voyages of His Majesty's ships, Adventure and Beagle, Vol. II : Proceedings of the second expedition 1831-1836, under command of Captain Robert Fitzroy New York : AMS Press, 1966. 508.0924 DAR

Narrative of the surveying voyages of His Majesty's ships, Adventure and Beagle, Vol. III : Journals and remarks 1832-1836 by Charles Darwin New York : AMS Press, 1966. 508.0924 DAR

Discoveries in Australia : with an account of the coasts and rivers explored and surveyed during the voyage of H.M.S. Beagle in the years 1837-38-39-40-41-42-43... By John Lort Stokes. London T. and W. Boone, 1846. 2 vols. Adelaide Libraries Board of South Australia, 1969. RARE 919.4042 STO

The Beagle letters / Charles Darwin ; edited by Frederick Burkhardt ; with an introduction by Janet Brown Cambridge, UK ; New York : Cambridge University Press, 2008. 508.0924 DAR

A narrative of the voyage of HMS Beagle : being passages from the narrative / by Captain Robert FitzRoy, R. N., together with extracts from his logs, reports and letters, additional material from the diary and letters of Charles Darwin, notes from Midshipman Philip King and letters from Second Lieutenant Bartholomew Sullivan ; selected and edited by David Stanbury. London : Folio Society, 1977. RARE 910.45 FIT

The voyage of the Beagle By Charles Darwin. New York New American Library, 1972. 508.0924 DAR

Charles Darwin's The voyage of the Beagle : the journals that revealed nature's grand plan / Michael Kerrigan ; photography by Wolfgang Kaehler. Glasgow : Saraband, c2005. 508.0924 DAR

Darwin in Australia

Charles Darwin in Australia / F.W. Nicholas and J.M. Nicholas. Port Melbourne, Vic. : Cambridge University Press, 2002. 919.4042 NIC

Crew of the Beagle

FitzRoy : the remarkable story of Darwin's captain and the invention of the weather forecast By John and Mary Gribbin. London : Review, 2003. 508.0924 FIT *Mariners are warned! : John Lort Stokes and H.M.S. Beagle in Australia 1837-1843* By Marsden Hordern. Carlton, Vic Melbourne University Press at the Miegunyah Press, 1989. 919.4042 HOR

Syms Covington of Pambula, assistant to Charles Darwin on the voyage of H.M.S. Beagle, 1831-1836 Compiled by B.J. Ferguson for Merimbula-Imlay Historical Society Incorporated. 2nd ed. rev. and enl. Merimbula, N.S.W. : The Society, 1988. 508.0924 FER

The family and local history handbook 11 edited & compiled by Robert Blatchford and Elizabeth Blatchford. Nether Poppleton : Robert Blatchford Publishing, [2008] REF 929.1072041 BLA Contains a short article titled "Was Your Ancestor a Crew Member on HMS Beagle in 1831?".

The [Who do you think you are?](http://www.bbcwhodoyouthinkyouare.com/) (<http://www.bbcwhodoyouthinkyouare.com/>) website has a transcript of the muster for the *HMS Beagles'* 1831 voyage <http://www.bbcwhodoyouthinkyouare.com/images/beagleshipsmuster.pdf>. Another listing on a family history site with some pictures is available [here](http://www.usbornefamilytree.com/beaglecrewlist.htm) (<http://www.usbornefamilytree.com/beaglecrewlist.htm>).

The [New Zealand dictionary of biography online](http://www.dnzb.govt.nz/dnzb/) (<http://www.dnzb.govt.nz/dnzb/>) has a biography of [Robert Fitzroy](http://www.dnzb.govt.nz/DNZB/alt_essayBody.asp?essayID=1F12) (http://www.dnzb.govt.nz/DNZB/alt_essayBody.asp?essayID=1F12) and the [Australian dictionary of biography online edition](http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/) (<http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/>) has one of [Lort Stokes](http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A020449b.htm) (<http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A020449b.htm>). A search of the Dictionary reveals several other people with *HMS Beagle* associations as crew and also the artists Conrad Martens and Augustus Earle.

Official logs

The Australian Joint Copying Project (AJCP) contains microfilms of original logs held in UK collections. Links to the following Libraries Australia records show the items and what libraries hold copies.

<http://nla.gov.au/anbd.bib-an9332480>

<http://nla.gov.au/anbd.bib-an13636816>

Maritime archaeology

What happened to the *HMS Beagle*?

For nearly 10 years Dr Robert Prescott of the University of St Andrews has been trying to locate the remains of the *HMS Beagle* with several digs on the Essex marshes. Listen to a BBC Radio 4 podcast [Hunting the lost Beagle](http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio4/darwin/beagle.shtml) (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio4/darwin/beagle.shtml>) about latest developments in the "Hunt for the Beagle".

Web based resources

Here are some useful Darwin and *Beagle* web based resources:

The [Works of Charles Darwin online](http://darwin-online.org.uk/) (<http://darwin-online.org.uk/>) is a comprehensive and well respected website.

The [Darwin Correspondence Project](http://www.darwinproject.ac.uk/) (<http://www.darwinproject.ac.uk/>) a joint UK and American academic initiative has copies of his letters online.

[About Darwin](http://www.aboutdarwin.com/) (<http://www.aboutdarwin.com/>) is another good web site.

The [Beagle Project](http://www.thebeagleproject.com/) (<http://www.thebeagleproject.com/>) is a project to build a replica of the *HMS Beagle*. The [Darwin200 project](http://www.darwin200.org/) (<http://www.darwin200.org/>) commemorates the 200th anniversary of Darwin's birth and his achievements. Coordinated by the Natural History Museum in the UK. The website has lots of events news and information including an interactive *Beagle* voyage. The National Archives and Learning Curve in the UK have produced a podcast geared for school audiences called [Darwin's voyage: HMS Beagle 1831-36](http://www.learningcurve.gov.uk/podcasts/podcasts.xml) which can be downloaded from <http://www.learningcurve.gov.uk/podcasts/podcasts.xml>. This is an entertaining and fresh look at Darwin's voyage using accounts drawn from official documents such as the ships logs held at the National Archives and makes a good introduction. Visit the [museums' blog](http://anmm.wordpress.com/) (<http://anmm.wordpress.com/>) to see a series of posts on the [building of a model of the HMSBeagle](http://anmm.wordpress.com/category/making-hms-beagle/) (<http://anmm.wordpress.com/category/making-hms-beagle/>), commissioned for the Museum's exhibition *Charles Darwin voyages and ideas that shook the world*. This exhibition opens on the 20 March 2009 and is showing until the 23 August 2009. [Find out more](http://www.anmm.gov.au/site/page.cfm?u=2&c=2263) (<http://www.anmm.gov.au/site/page.cfm?u=2&c=2263>) about the exhibition.

Basic facts about the *HMS Beagle* including length, date of build, type and fate can be found at The National Maritime Museum UK's [Beagle FAQ's](http://www.nmm.ac.uk/explore/sea-and-ships/facts/faqs/ships-and-vessels/hms-beagle-faqs) (<http://www.nmm.ac.uk/explore/sea-and-ships/facts/faqs/ships-and-vessels/hms-beagle-faqs>).

The [wikipedia entry](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Beagle) (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Beagle) has a concise history of the vessel and linked [wikimedia commons](http://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?title=Category:HMS_Beagle&oldid=18013765) (http://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?title=Category:HMS_Beagle&oldid=18013765) resources.

The [wapedia entry on The voyage of the Beagle](http://wapedia.mobi/en/The_Voyage_of_the_Beagle)

(http://wapedia.mobi/en/The_Voyage_of_the_Beagle) has links to electronic copies of many of the original texts.