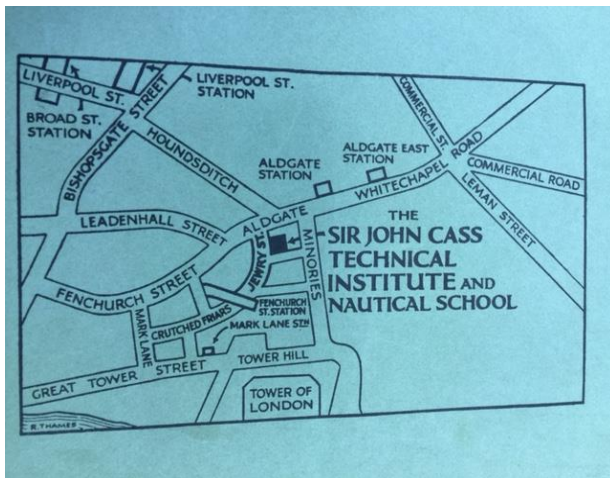


## The Sir John Cass Nautical School, London

In 1927 the Department of Navigation was established at the Sir John Cass Technical Institute in Jewry Street, City of London. The courses provided by the department were intended to meet requirements of sea going apprentices and navigating officers. In 1969 the King Edward VII Nautical School and the Department of Navigation merged to form the City of London Polytechnic's School of Navigation.



The new school was based in Minories and contained state-of-the-art equipment including a radar simulation suite, a ship manoeuvring tank and a planetarium. The School of Navigation provided courses for the entire range of examinations for ship's navigating officers and Master Mariners. Over 1,300 students attended the School of Navigation every year. The School had close contacts with all the major shipping companies, Trinity House and the British Shipping Federation. In 1977 Sir John Cass's

Foundation awarded funding for a radio controlled model vessel and towards the installation of a new marine radar simulator at the School. The School of Navigation was closed in 1984, bringing an end to sixty years of navigational training provided by Sir John Cass's Foundation and its institutions.

### MV Sir John Cass

Two ships have carried the name MV Sir John Cass. The first, commissioned in May 1940, as HMS ML 252 a Fairmile B torpedo boat, was converted after the Second World War and was used by the Sir John Cass School of Navigation for radar training. In November 1963 the ship unfortunately sank, with no loss of life, when moored alongside Woolwich Arsenal Upper Jetty as a result of a collision with another vessel.

The second MV Sir John Cass, commissioned in 1967, was designed and equipped for radar training and marine research; one of the first vessels to be built specifically for this dual purpose. MV Sir John Cass was sold in 1984 by the City of London Polytechnic and the ship was re-named the Trinity House Vessel Dioptric Surveyor. The ship was then sold in 1986 to the Turks & Caicos Marine Archaeological Recovery Ltd. The ship's bell, specially made by the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, was retained by the Foundation and installed at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School where it is rung every Founder's Day announcing the imminent arrival of the Lord Mayor of London.



The watercolour (shown) was commissioned by the Foundation in 1967 and is of the second vessel MV Sir John Cass. It is by the renowned artist Edwin Greenman ARCA (1909-2003), who was the Head of the Sir John Cass School of Art from 1951 until 1969 and is proudly displayed in the lobby of offices of Sir John Cass's Foundation.

**Written by Richard Foley**