Library Steve Ritchie at Newcastle University

Rear Admiral Ritchie has presented his personal library to the safekeeping of Newcastle University. Many will know of Steve Ritchie’s contribution to the AS IT WAS column of Hydro International. Steve wrote this column over ten years finally signing off in 2006. His contributions were based on his long experience in hydrography both as Hydrographer of the Navy and Head of the International Hydrographic Bureau but also on his extensive research of his beloved book collection!

Steve Ritchie, the scholar and campaigner, was of course recognised back in 2003 when the new building housing the national hydrographic archive at Taunton was opened and named after him. At a rather more personal ceremony at Newcastle University’s library Steve, the scholar, historian and archivist bade farewell to his private collection. The library staff were amazed at the quality of the collection itself and the associated catalogue.

The collection was welcomed to Newcastle University Professor David Parker who heads up the Geomatics teaching and research team. Based in the School of Civil Engineering and Geosciences the team teach and research in all aspects of geomatics - including offshore survey of course. The books will be an excellent resource for current and future students and staff but being managed as a ‘special collection’ within Newcastle University all is available to scholars worldwide. The Hydrographic Office Library have already been in touch to open up their access route!

https://www.hydro-international.com/content/news/library-steve-ritchie-at-newcastle-university