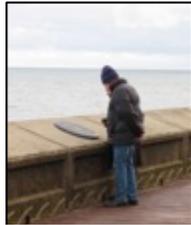




SCARBOROUGH MARITIME HERITAGE CENTRE

WINTER 2022

Marine Drive Heritage Trail – Porthole in Time Project



The contractor has now installed 31 engraved granite history portholes along the Marine Drive Sea Wall. Each one has two paragraphs of interesting historical facts about our town and its residents. Local schools and a college have designed the graphic images on them. Please come along to our opening ceremony at 1.30pm on Tuesday 6th December followed by refreshments at the 'Ivy by the Sea' café on Sandside. Funding for this project comes from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Appeal for information

1: We are preparing an exhibition for 2023 on the Scottish herring lasses that came to work in Scarborough. If you have any information or stories, perhaps lasses who remained in Scarborough, married into a local family etc. then please let us know? Do you have any images with names on?

2: Our 'Sea Wall Heritage Trail - Porthole in Time' project is also about gathering the public's memories of Scarborough in days gone by. If you have any interesting stories or photos then please get in touch?

3: We would like to do an exhibition about the history of the Fishermen & Firemen's football match and the harbour raft race in its early days. Please contact us with any stories, information or photographs?

Her Late Majesty The Queen

It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of Queen Elizabeth II. The Maritime Centre was awarded the Queen's Award for Volunteering in 2016 and two of our volunteers went to Buckingham Palace for a thank you garden party. Our condolences go out to the Royal Family and our best wishes go to King Charles III.

Next Exhibition

2023 marks the 70th anniversary of the huge storm in 1953 that devastated the East Coast of Britain. Our new exhibition, starting in January, will look at this, storm forecasting and other storms and shipwrecks, including the 1799, 1861, 1880 & 1954 storms.

Donations

Our grateful thanks to Dr Stephen Friend who recently donated a copy of his fascinating book 'A Sense of Belonging' to the Centre's reference library. It is the result of years of scholarly research into the importance of religion in forging a sense of community amongst the fishing families of Scarborough and other towns and villages of the Yorkshire coast. We have also been donated a collection of national maritime-themed books that we have available for sale to raise money for our bills! Please pop in and see them.

Visitors



A group of Scarborough Cavalier Rotary Club members and their partners had a fantastic insight into Scarborough's maritime heritage on a special Wednesday evening visit in September. They commented "*An excellent local facility, full of history!*" If you are part of a group and would like a special viewing or visit please contact us.

Underwater Archaeology

SMHC volunteer, Matt Newsome, completed an 'Underwater Archaeology Course' and has created a report on it. Find the link on our 'Featured Articles' section of our website's homepage.



Photo above: Matt taking underwater photographs of a training dive site.
Photo credit: M. Blatchford.

Scarborough's connections to slavery

We have been contacted by Shaheen Alikhan who is working on a new book being published next year. It is based on her thesis at the University of Virginia, USA, on the architecture of purpose-built slaving vessels. It appears that two of Scarborough's ships were involved in the transatlantic slave trade. She says it is very likely that Yorkshire benefitted in more subtle ways from slavery, such as merchants' goods going through several channels to be used for exchange, a wider system of banking or credit through London, etc.

The *Success Packet* and the *Friendship* were both built in Scarborough, before sailing to London (possibly for additional fitting out or collection of sailors & provisioning) before heading towards the coast of West Africa. Since the *Success Packet* was built in 1762 and her first recorded slaving voyage transpired in 1771, she was almost certainly built for another purpose carrying non-human cargo before being retrofitted for the Guinea trade. The *Friendship's* approximate eight-year discrepancy between 1781-1789 indicates the same. For more information on this terrible but fascinating topic see the Slavery Voyage website <https://www.slavevoyages.org>

Season's Greetings

As this is the last newsletter for 2022 we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support this year. We especially thank our volunteers who staff the Centre every week. We know the economic outlook is not very bright at the moment but we will continue our good work with your help and support. Thank you all, best wishes and good luck for 2023.



We are run entirely by volunteers and public donations.
We always need volunteers. No special knowledge or skills are required.
Please contact us if you can spare a few hours a week?
Thank you



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