



## SCARBOROUGH MARITIME HERITAGE CENTRE

Newsletter – July 2017

### SEAFEST

Celebrate Seafest from 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> July. The Yorkshire Coast's amazing Maritime Heritage Festival in its 19th year. Our exhibition will be in the big marquee on the West Pier, South Bay, Scarborough. Seafest is attended by over 20,000 people with fish cookery demonstrations, beer tent, entertainment, craft stalls and history. HMS Pickle will be in attendance, a replica schooner from the Battle of Trafalgar. See website for details:

<http://www.discoveryorkshirecoast.com/scarborough-seafest.aspx>



### NEW DONATIONS

The past few months have been a busy time for donations of artefacts by the public. A print of a drawing by artist H.B. Carter was donated by J. Callcut. A watercolour of the Scarborough lifeboat 'Amelia' was donated by Hilda Burdett. Other donations include a ship's 100-year-old medicine chest, donated by Martin Johnson, and an extremely fine model of the Scarborough lifeboat, J E Graves of Sheffield, donated by Mr G. Willis (Photographs over page). There are many other small items, documents and photos so many thanks go to everyone who donated.

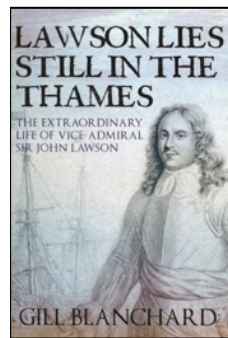


This 100-year-old ship's medicine chest was onboard a steam trawler owned by James (Jim) Johnson of the trawling firm J. Johnson & Son, founded in 1915. The chest contains cough mixture, castor oil, diarrhoea treatment, Friars Balsam, Black Wash, Soothing Mixture, Purging Pills, Blood & Stomach Pills. If none of the medicines worked and resulted in death, then a miniature bible was included to read the last rights. The Bible is just over an inch tall with extremely small print.



The last HMS Scarborough was scrapped 40 years ago. She was a Whitby Class, Type 12, 1st Rate Anti-Submarine Frigate built by Vickers Armstrong. Launched on the Tyne, 4.4.1955, and broken up in Blyth, 31.8.1977. She led a busy life as the Leader of the 5th Frigate Squadron circumnavigating the globe and taking part in the Atomic Bomb Tests at Christmas Island in 1958. She was involved in Icelandic patrols during the Cod War and later became Leader of the 17th Frigate Squadron providing sea training. She visited Scarborough in 1962, 1971 and 1972.

### NEW BOOK & EXHIBITION



Our next exhibition will start at the end of July and will focus on Scarborough born Vice-Admiral Sir John Lawson (1615 – 1665). Author and historian, Gill Blanchard, has researched the fascinating story of this local man who went on to be an important historical figure. Initially a staunch republican, Vice-Admiral John Lawson was in command of ships in the parliament's service during and after the English Civil War. He blockaded Scarborough when the castle was in control of the Royalists. For much of the time he was a devoted servant of Oliver Cromwell, especially in the sea wars against the Dutch. When the army took control of parliament in 1660, Lawson took a fleet of warships into the Thames and blockaded the city, thus restoring parliament. When Charles II came back to England Lawson pledged his allegiance to the King and narrowly avoided death for treason. He was later knighted and served at sea in the Mediterranean and North Africa.

### OTHER NEWS

The Albert Strange Association is pleased to inform us that they have found an owner for the 42-foot sailing boat 'Tally Ho'. It is one of the last designed by Albert Strange. He was an Edwardian Scarborough artist and yacht designer. Our harbour pontoons are named after him.

Armed Forces Day in Scarborough took place on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June. Thousands of people visited the town and the maritime centre ran a signal flag trail challenge. People had to find and identify 10 maritime signal flags in shop windows and decode the word they made. Thanks go to all the people and shops who participated.

### VISITORS' COMMENTS

*I visited the centre with my mum and had a lovely reminisce. I am the daughter of the late Gordon Pickering, lost at sea Dec 16, 1970. It was lovely to see so many photos and artefacts and to see the vast amount of research documents available to view – L.P. Backhouse.*

*Congratulations on an impressive collection and good display – Brooks family, Lowestoft.*

*Most amazing visit ever – G. Smith, Poland.*

*Fabulous stuff, really interesting & well presented – L. Warner, London.*

*A valuable archive of local history – S. Hooper, Scarborough.*

*Very nice place and friendly – S. Farrell, Canada.*

The SMHC is run entirely by volunteers and public donations.  
Please help us in any way you can. Thank you.



### Scarborough Maritime Heritage Centre

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