



## Newsletter – September 2013



### Seafest success – 5<sup>th</sup> year

An impressive 'Armada' of model boats was the centrepiece of this year's Seafest exhibition held on the West Pier in July. Thanks go to all the volunteers who helped out and to those supporters who loaned their precious models.

### Maritime History Course

The SMHC and the Workers' Educational Association (WEA) are running a 10 evening Maritime History Course starting on September 25th. The course will be held on Wednesday evenings from 6.30pm to 8.30pm at the library. Topics will include: the history and development of the harbour; shipwrecks and shipbuilding; tunny and herring fishing; 1914 bombardment; the Titanic; yachting; maritime superstitions and folklore. Please contact us as soon as possible to enrol.

### New Exhibition

Our new exhibition, starting in October, will be 'Scarborough's Maritime Art Through the Ages'. Open: Wed-Sun, 11am to 4pm, entrance free.

### Fundraising



Thanks go to the 'Bridbeat Singers' for entertaining us and helping to raise funds while we enjoyed a delicious fish and chip supper at Restaurant 55. Another 'fish, chips & music' night is due to be held on 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> of November. Contact us to reserve a place.

We now have an account with 'Localgiving.com'. If you are on the internet you can easily donate to us from your computer at home using a credit card or paypal account. At certain times of the year Localgiving.com double any donations you give.

SMHC pens and keyrings are now available in the SMHC for just £1 each. All purchases go towards helping keep the Centre running.

### Schools & Talks

Lindy and Tom Rowley gave a talk to pupils at Cayton School and were so well liked that the children wrote to the local paper asking for a bigger Maritime Centre for school children to visit. The Scarborough News published an excellent 2-page article on the issue.

Children at Bramcote School put on an end of year play about the Titanic and were very pleased to borrow artefacts and information panels from us. The school wants to link up again for the centenary of the bombardment in 2014.

SMHC chairman, Mark Vesey, gave maritime history talks to the Scalby Village Trust and to the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust in Flamborough.



### Recent donations

Thanks go to R. Woodwall, from Leigh-on-sea in Essex, who donated the aluminium crest (above left) from HMS Scarborough. She was a Hastings-class sloop built in 1930 by the Swann Hunter shipyard in Tyne and Wear and saw active service during WW2, especially as a convoy escort in the North Atlantic. She was a 1045 ton vessel, 250 feet in length and 34 feet beam and was sold to the British Iron and Steel Company, BISCO, for scrap in 1949.

The donated model ship in a bottle (above right) is of the Olivebank. She was a four-masted steel barque built in 1892 by Mackie & Thompson, Glasgow. Her dimensions were: 326'x43'x24' and tonnage: 2647 NRT and 2824 GRT. She carried cargo such as coal and guano to as far away as Auckland in New Zealand. In September 1939 she struck a mine in the North Sea and sank on a voyage from Barry Docks to Mariehamn. Fourteen men lost their lives including Captain Carl Granith. Seven others who had climbed the rigging were rescued after 48 hours by the Danish fishing cutter *Talona* of Esbjerg.

Thanks also go to those who donated maritime photographs, charts and certificates, books and a pair of Dan buoy marker lights.



### In memory of John Rushton MBE

John Rushton, historian, researcher, archivist, founding member and supporter of the SMHC sadly passed away in June. Without his enthusiasm, commitment and friendship we would not be where we are today. A plaque was unveiled in his honour at the Centre. Our sympathies go out to his family & friends. Donations collected at the funeral were given to the SMHC. See our website for a full obituary.

### Help Wanted

We are always looking for friendly volunteers who can spare a few hours a week to help with filing, typing, fundraising, accounts or greeting the public. Please contact Lindy Rowley for a chat on 01723 369361, call in or email.

Our £4,000 rent bill is due in November. If you can help in any way, please contact us. Thank you.

### Scarborough Maritime Heritage Centre

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