



SCARBOROUGH MARITIME HERITAGE CENTRE

Newsletter – Summer 2016

SEAFEST : July 30th & 31st

Make a note in your diary to visit us at this year's Seafest on the West Pier. There will be music, food, beer, cooking demonstrations, market stalls, a maritime heritage exhibition and much more.

See www.discoveryorkshirecoast.com for more details.

OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY

This took place on Saturday 2nd April 2016. Our patron, Lord John Beauclerk, cut the ribbon and wished the centre and its volunteers good luck. Many thanks to everyone who attended and made it a special day.



Photo by Dave Barry

Our current exhibition is on the centenary of the world war one naval battle of Jutland. It was Britain's biggest naval battle of ww1 and several Scarborough men were on the ships involved.

EDUCATION



The SMHC is now part of the Children's University (CU). This organisation promotes social mobility by providing access to high quality out-of-school hours learning activities for children aged 7 to 14. The CU works with community organisations and creates 'Learning Destinations'. The goal is to raise aspirations, boost achievement and foster a love of learning. An important principle is that participation by children is voluntary and is intentionally different to normal schoolwork. The scheme requires a degree of engagement from parents, carers and the wider family.

Each child involved has a 'Passport to learning' that is stamped by a volunteer at the SMHC when the child has completed the task sheet we have prepared. This fun fact finding quiz sheet encourages children to explore the exhibits and find out about Scarborough's maritime heritage. They are encouraged to try on traditional fishing costumes, make knots and draw the Scarborough town seal. For more information see www.childrensuniversity.co.uk

TRIPADVISOR WEBSITE COMMENTS

"A wonderful historic insight. Walking into the centre, I thought what an interesting collection. All things maritime. However, the true interest in the museum was the collection of old photos that our knowledgeable guide ran through for us with lovely and not so lovely stories of the past. Inspiring and fascinating."

"Great Afternoon. Great place to take you back in time with the local fishing industry with very knowledgeable staff. You could spend a whole day there and not see it all."

"Very friendly and helpful staff with an excellent exhibition. Fascinating."

"It has moved to the opposite side of the road into new premises. It is free and the staff are friendly. There are interesting photos with information on Scarborough's maritime history. Down a few steps there are folders and folders full of articles and information on whatever you want to know about Scarborough's history. Pop in if you are in the area."

"Fascinating museum with a wealth of knowledge. The centre reveals the town's maritime history to residents and visitors. Five years in the making, this 'museum of the sea' has gathered a huge collection of photographs, historical documents and artefacts about Scarborough's and Yorkshire's coastal maritime life. The staff provide talks and events to local schools and colleges, they are a credit to the local area."

DONATIONS

Many thanks to all those who have donated artefacts, ship models, documents etc. in the past few months. Mrs. Casper sent a fascinating letter by a Royal Navy man on HMS Revenge in November 1918. He was involved in the surrender of the German Fleet. Read the letter on our website in the 'Scarborough at War', 'Royal Navy' section.

VISITORS



Since re-opening in January we have welcomed over 1000 visitors including groups such as the Castleton Sea Cadets, Scarborough Civic Society and several school groups. The photo above shows Frank Zobel, from Derby, our 1000th visitor who arrived in April.

NOTE: On Saturday October 1st 2016 the East Yorkshire Family History Society will have an information & helpdesk at SMHC from 11am to 4pm

QUEEN'S AWARD



SMHC volunteers have been given a Queen's award for voluntary service. Since 2004 we have welcomed over a hundred volunteers of all ages and backgrounds. They gain new skills & confidence whilst strengthening the local community & educating the public. The SMHC was nominated by the council's Civic Officer, Irene Webster, and we received letters of support from the Civic Society, South Bay Traders, Lady Caroline French Blake, Ward Councillor Janet Jefferson & Erika Rushton, Director of the Beautiful Ideas Company in Liverpool.

SMHC president, Martin Johnson, said *"I am thoroughly delighted at this award as the volunteers have worked so hard over many years to achieve a brilliant resource and visitor attraction for the town."* Co-founder, vice chair & volunteer co-ordinator, Lindy Rowley, said *"It was such an honour to go to Buckingham Palace and accept this award on behalf of all the volunteers who have helped us over the years."* Chairman, Mark Vesey, said *"This award shows how important Scarborough's heritage is and is testament to what a community can do if it pulls together. This really is the icing on the cake for the Centre."*

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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