

# *Newsletter, May 2007*

## **Feasibility Study**

In our Dec 06 newsletter, we mentioned the need for a Feasibility Study for which the Trust had been awarded a suitable grant. North of England Civic Trust is now putting the final touches to complete the Study.

This is a very comprehensive report and is sure to promote and encourage support for North East Maritime Trust, whilst moving our activities and organisation forward in a confident, professional and exciting manner.

Thanks go to all of those who have contributed significant information and positive ideas for this report.

NEMT has also been awarded *Charity Status*, (February 2007 N0.1117855) a sure sign of our honourable intentions, viability and sustainability for the future.

## **Henry Frederick Swan ( Former RNLI Tynemouth Lifeboat 1917- 1940's)**

We have been making good progress with the HFS Lifeboat. The engine, a BMC Commodore fitted in the late 60's and gearbox have been lifted out and are now sitting on a purpose built trolley, awaiting overhaul. *Any volunteers?*

Important work to remove anti-foul is continuing and is all off down to the bilge keels. The next stage is to move the boat forward to clear the building roof trusses and lift her 1M, giving safe access to allow the remainder to be stripped off and a full inspection of underside and keel. We shall then be ready for a detailed survey to assess our plan of action for the proposed restoration.

*However, there is still a lot of basic time- taking preparation to be done and extra pairs of hands are always made extremely welcome.*

The lads meet at the workshops on every Wednesday from 09.00 to 15.30.

We would like to be open to the public and continue work on the HFS on additional days. However, Wednesday is obviously not convenient for everyone.

Is there anyone out there (male or female) willing to open up on another day even if it is just for the morning or afternoon?

Contact : Dave Parker c/o [contact@nemaritimetrust.co.uk](mailto:contact@nemaritimetrust.co.uk)

## **"Favourite" BK11**



Seine netter (1948) Built by Walter Reekie at St Monan ,Fife.

Following a full restoration in Fred Crowell's boat yard, Wapping Street, She was finally re launched on Sat 17<sup>th</sup> March, in all her glory.

Much thanks to Fred for taking time during the very busy days to give Members of the Trust much valued instruction on steaming of the oak timbers and the making of masts

from start to finish out of telegraph poles!



### **Mouth of the Tyne Festival July 14<sup>th</sup> / 15<sup>th</sup>.**

Following the success at the previous festival in 2005, it is proposed that the MOTTFF will be held this year over the 3<sup>rd</sup>. weekend in July.

The festival is to include a strong maritime -based element that will be a focus on South Tyneside's riverside and its important maritime heritage.

Shore- based activities will include traditional boat building and repair demonstrations by various Maritime Heritage organisations including North East Maritime Trust at Wapping St.

Local Marine artists (to be confirmed) and craftsman are invited to display and demonstrate work at our NEMT workshop along with examples of traditional rope work, including fender making and fishing net repairs, all to the accompaniment of a salty sea shanty!

*Volunteers are always needed to contribute and assist in making events a success with the ambition of promoting the NEMT. We all have skills of one kind or another, please bring them along.*

The well loved "Reaper" a Classic (1902) Fife Herring Drifter; flagship of the Scottish Fisheries Museum and typical of the fishing boats seen regularly on our coast & river, has been invited.

A spectacular sight of over 70ft long with her large red Lug sails, the Reaper had completed a six-month refit before returning to Anstruther, Fife in April 2005.

Also on the river will be several Sailing Cobles and many boats from local clubs and associations including the Coble and Keelboat Society who are all invited to join the flotilla and parade of sail.

It is hoped that this high profile event, which is supported by South Tyneside council, will encourage more people and organisations to get involved with NEMT and our rich maritime heritage.

**NEMT Website WWWWW.....** We are setting up a website for the North East Maritime Trust. We hope that this will be an invaluable tool for promotion and free communication with like-minded folk of all Maritime related associations. If anyone has a particular flair in this field and wishes to offer their help, then please don't hesitate to contact the treasurer/ secretary of the **Friends of NEMT**: