



Newsletter

Autumn

2024

- *Headline
- *Through The Porthole
- *Latest news
- *Workshop
- *Events



It's officially Autumn and winter is on the way

Headline News

As you can imagine NEMT has had a very active summer this year and currently getting ready for some new and continuing workshop activities over winter.

This includes our taking ownership of an ex -Hartlepool Pilot boat called 'Viking' from Bridlington Sailing Coble Preservation Society (BSCPS). We thank them so much for their help in making this happen so professionally and without any problems at all. This potentially wonderful historic c1908 vessel is a double ender or 'mule', measuring just twenty two feet LOA. After restoration, she will sail again. Not quite a coble but a fast, light and very manoeuvrable workhorse (or mule).



The Viking
Just arrived
at South
Shields



South Shields Mayoral visit



Getting ready for winter

We hope to produce a record of her time at Hartlepool, so as much help as possible regarding Viking's history will be very much appreciated.



Through The Porthole - a new feature—looking back.

Update: unfortunately, the planned launching of our lifeboat Henry Frederick Swan could not take place as hoped due to some incredibly wild weather (late April). It was later discovered that a rather awkward to fix leak was found onboard which took some extra time to repair, just to make sure everything was good and safe to go.

However, a very successful launch took place just a few weeks later.

Thief now locked up



The thief was caught on our video camera system. He is known to the police. Their investigations eventually caught up with him and after viewing our camera footage he was arrested, questioned, pleaded guilty and locked up.

However, unfortunately, none of the historic items stolen have been recovered. As a result, more security cameras and alarms have had to be installed.

Sorry to say, a former member of NEMT and now a former Trustee of NFHT has knowingly taken over and abused our old Website for his own ends and personal opinions. We have spent a great deal of time and effort to try and rectify this ridiculous situation. At an NEMT Trustee meeting we were left with no option but to follow our protocol and sent a letter to him indicating our intentions. He is now permanently deleted as a member of NEMT. Please accept our apologies for this unavoidable situation which we hope will be resolved very soon.

Should we fail to reach a satisfactory conclusion, we will have to consider pursuing legal action and we have reported the matter to the police. Situations such as this are apparently quite common and we won't give up.

So, in future please use our new official website www.nemaritimetrust.org.uk which has information directly from NEMT and not from a former member.

Please also use our temporary email address — nemaritime2020@gmail.com

Latest News

DOGGER BANK WIND FARM

The new Boatshed Bistro is proving to be very popular, with customers making donations for coffees and teas. We currently don't serve food products, except for pre packed biscuits. But, if anyone with experience would like to help, please get in touch.

The cafe has been established by donations and funding from various organisations including South Tyneside Council and latterly Dogger Bank Wind Farm. Of course, we are very appreciative of all funders.

In 2024 NEMT has also been supported by The Barbour Foundation, The Sir James Knott Trust, East Coast Fibreglass and Boldon Auction Galleries.



Workshop News

Work is now completed with our restoration of the 'Margaret' by Bart Taylor of Cullercoats. She's a 1930s salmon fishing rowing boat, possibly also used for poaching!

The fitting of a new hog and keel including timbers at stem and transom, knees and thwarts, has been completed along with caulking and paint to complete the job.

While not a full restoration, the extensive work needed to transform this wonderful little boat back into sailable condition has proved to be very rewarding for all concerned.

It will be a great day to see her back in the water where she belongs.



Then



**And
NOW**



Boat Build for South Shields Sea Cadets (The Kernic)

For those who are keeping an eye on our Facebook channel you will know that despite an earlier hiccup, we are now making great progress with the boat build.

This project is a very important addition to our current and future plans and sustainability with education now being an even more important part of our portfolio.

We have a great team headed by Matt and Dave who are really taking this new boat building technique in hand.

Sometimes called stitch and glue or composite construction, this system uses best quality plywoods available, using traditional boat building techniques makes for a great combination .

Along with a great deal of help and advice from East Coast Fibreglass, we are approaching the next stage where the hull is made ready for the addition of hardwood timber and other materials being added before painting etc. Please see over -

Continued— The Kernic Boat build

The kit was supplied by Jordan Boats (Near Carlisle) and we can recommend anyone who wishes to build a similar boat to speak to Alec Jordan for advice on +44 16977 41415.

Jordan Boats

The Home of Plywood Boat Kits



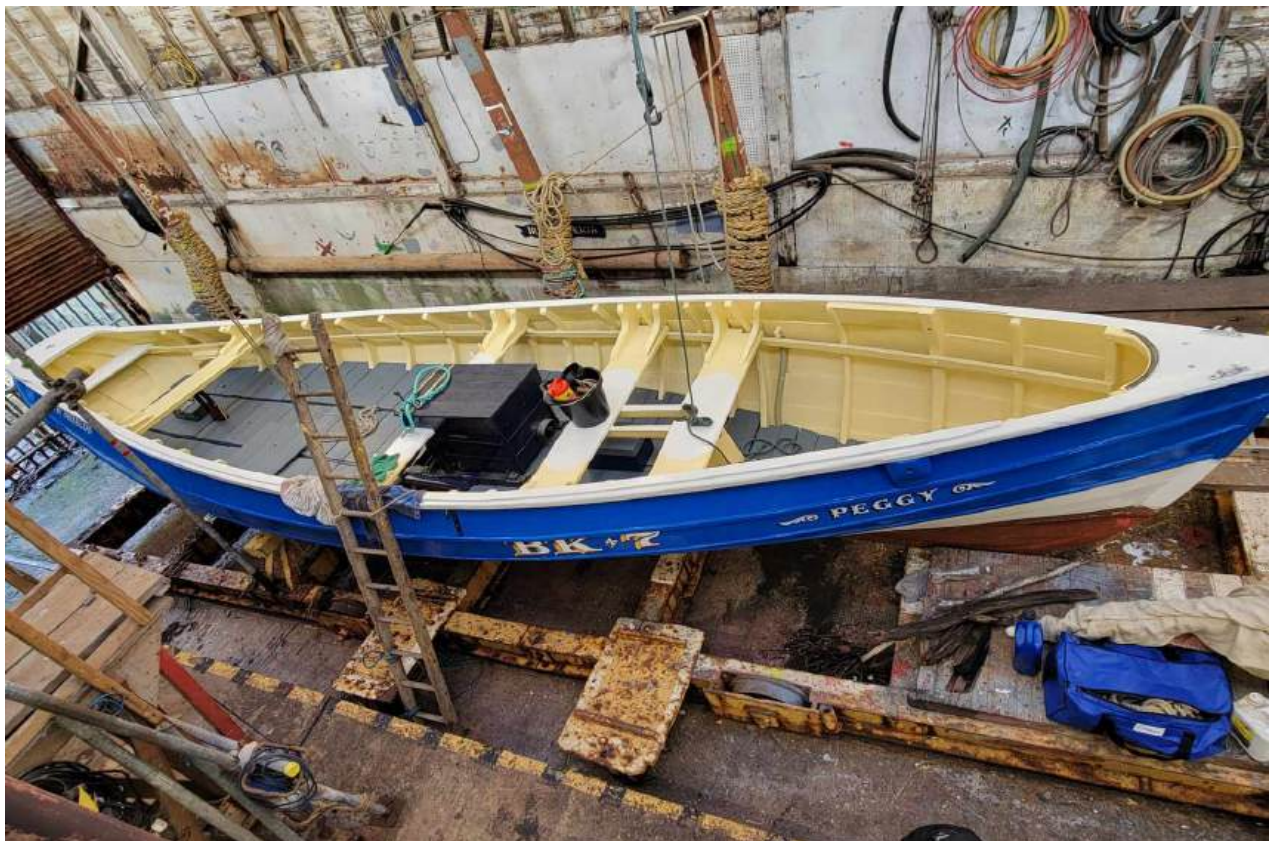
Above - Lifting the boat from its frame

Below—Prep before turning over for the next stage of the build, exciting times.



Other Workshop Activities

These include a visit to the NEMT Boatshed for the new Northumbrian Fishing Heritage (NFH). Coble 'Peggy' which needed some work and included two new frames, repainting etc. which has been completed over a number of weeks.



Visitors and Bistro

We have had a steady flow of lovely, appreciative visitors to our workshops including the Boatyard Bistro, where some healthy donations have been well received.

It will be great if we can get some help to manage the Bistro, make coffee and serve biscuits etc. Perhaps on Saturday mornings.

If you would like to give it a try please don't hesitate to get in touch by phone or by email.

A deliberate attempt to improve our ability to attract even more training and educational activities to young and old alike. We have attracted Schools, colleges and university students to take part in visits and activities where appropriate.

In April last year we enjoyed the culmination of Sunderland University students who organised and performed maritime based video recording and musical entertainment in our main workshop.

We are pleased that Sunderland University have again shown an interest in similar activities.

South Shields Marine College and local schools have also expressed similar interests.

Events 2024

It was an honour to take part in the D-Day commemoration event which took place on 6th June at South Shields. Along with the Sea Cadets, Tynemouth RNLI, South Shields VLB, Tug and Pilot boats were all in attendance. We were delighted to be there with our lifeboat the Henry Frederick Swan after sailing from Newcastle quayside. Great crew and members who took part helped to make this an even more special, prestigious event, all supported by South Tyneside Council.



After arriving a little early we decided to sail out past the lighthouses and over the bar, after being greeted and entertained by a pod of dolphins, then returning near to the Little haven beach area where the event took place from about 20.30.



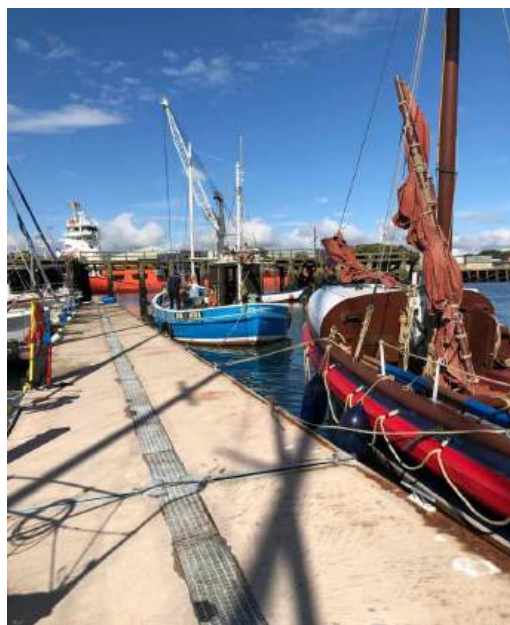
A great and important occasion was enjoyed by all our members.

Blyth Old Gaffers

Both the Henry Frederick Swan and Rachel Douglas sailed in company for our annual trip to Blyth RNYC, despite especially wet weather on the first day (Saturday).

But as usual, we were made very welcome by organisers the Old Gaffers Association (OGA). With great moorings on arrival, we enjoyed good company, shared stories and visited boats in the marina, followed by wonderful food on board lightship LV50, and a few beers of course. Unfortunately due to such bad weather we had to rethink our visit to the Blyth RNLI event, which was eventually cancelled.

After a hearty breakfast we then sailed around the harbour before heading back to the Tyne. Great entertainment was provided by another pod of dolphins on our trip back .



Bridlington Coble Festival

Royal Diadem11 was lifted, then transported to Bridlington harbour for their annual sailing event. While this is a rather expensive operation which was supported by David and Richard, we were blessed with good weather making it well worth the effort for an exciting couple of days.

We always enjoy our visits to support this unique annual event and enjoy great company at the same time.

Please see over-



Bridlington

As you can see a great time was had by all including Matt and Glenn, except Dave who nearly lost his head. But the bandage did help a bit, until it blew away.

Members Fishing Trip to St Mary's Island

Sunday 18th August, the mackerel are in and HFS is ready to go out fishing with some of our hardy members. The weather was fine and the sea state good, well not so good for fishing! But we did have scones, fresh cream and strawberries supplied by Shakeel and, a few fish were caught.

Any member can enjoy the events we provide, just keep an eye on Facebook or join our WhatsApp group to keep up to date. As always, events like this must depend on suitable weather conditions



Membership

We hope you will continue to support the aims of NEMT to maintain our regional maritime history and heritage. A substantial number of our members are asked to update their membership and a reminder will soon follow this newsletter. So please remember to keep your membership active; it is just so important for our Trust and this region's maritime heritage and culture. We also hope to support everyone who takes an interest.

Health and Safety

Health and Safety is our main concern for our premises and we are soon to be tidying up the workshop areas to address some issues which we have identified. Help with these tasks will be appreciated and welcomed.

Exterior Works

Some painting of the exterior wooden walls has been undertaken and continues in earnest, but as usual, any additional help will be appreciated.

Administration

Any member with experience who might be able to help in any way will be greatly appreciated. Please just call in, email or phone to speak.

nemaritime2020@gmail.com

0191 4478814 Please leave a message if we don't answer.

To help with admin and other important tasks, if you feel you can add some extra skills, we will appreciate any registered NEMT member to apply to be a Trustee by e-mail above.

We are hoping to hold an art exhibition with a nautical flavour in the new year along with university student events about mid April, so if you can help please get in touch.

