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NEWSLETTER Spring Edition April -2025

Headline News - As you may know, our original website has been hijacked by a former member and is being used to disseminate incorrect information sometimes bordering on slander. This member left under a cloud of rancour and suspicion many years ago and his membership was rescinded. Our new official website can be found using the following link: www.nemaritimetrust.org.uk.

Latest News (HFS) Henry Frederick Swan



HFS is now nearing completion after spending over five months in the NEMT boatshed. After gaining a great deal of experience over recent years, it was decided that an annual over-winter spell for protection from rain and extreme weather is essential. It also gives us a chance to do preservation, paintwork and any maintenance required. Weather permitting, we expect to relaunch at about 13.30 - 14.00 on Saturday 26th April. We also have a display of very professional photographs called 'Shipshape' by Hazel Plater and Elias Mallo Tardiveau. They were taken during our normal working days, so no holds barred and thankfully no sound either!

2

We are now ready for events to take place over the Summertime.

1st Event

The imminent launch of Henry Frederick Swan on 26th April at about 14.00. Weather permitting of course and remember 'Shipshape' as above.

2nd Event

Blyth VE Day Celebration on 3rd May which will be attended by NEMT on our lifeboat HFS. This event will also include a Royal Navy ship (no name yet), the Blyth RNLI lifeboat and many other vessels heading upriver at 12.00.

3rd Event

Bridlington with both the Henry Frederick Swan via Whitby, and coble Royal Diadem11 at the Bridlington Coble Festival on 19th and 20th of July. This is always a great event with like-minded people who share the same interests, a great partnership in fact.

4th Event

Blyth (date to be announced) located at the Blyth RNYC moorings. In association with RNYC and Old Gaffers (OGA). We look forward to some good sailing (weather permitting), and enjoying some good food, as usual.

More to follow

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Big Changes - Big Results - Our recent move to improve links with other like-minded organisations, and especially improving links with educational partners, has led to some real benefits for NEMT.

We now have strong links with Hartlepool Borough Council - Museum and Gallery (Friarage Restoration), South Shields Marine College and Sunderland University, including schools and more. The important cooperation and link with the South Shields Sea Cadets boat building (see page 3) is a case in point.

While we still have work to do, NEMT and all concerned have benefitted with these initiatives which importantly also promise to help with our sustainability and the Trust's future security.

Sunderland University

Henry Frederick Swan and NEMT - Public Event. Final year students took over our premises to provide fantastic music and tours for the public around NEMT, with humorous costumes and comments making it a great day for all. Many thanks to all the students for their enthusiasm and interest in the work of NEMT.

South Shields Sea Cadets

With the masterful duo, David (laying down on the job) and Matthew, we have made incredible progress with this very important boat-building project for NEMT and the Sea Cadets.

The boats are jointly designed by the combined efforts of NEMT, SSSC and Marine Architect Francois Vivier, with boat parts supplied by Jordan Boats in Cumbria.

This new initiative between all parties has been both exciting and informative in equal measures and has certainly become a steep learning curve for NEMT. But we are sure you will agree that it looks really good so far.

Dave isn't really asleep!



Hartlepool Borough Council

Agreement has been reached to do a full restoration of a historic Hartlepool



Coble called the Friarage. This agreement with the museum and gallery will start with transportation of the vessel around late July/ early August. Funding has been secured for a number of years to complete the job jointly with a small number of people who have shown an interest in the boat's future. They will be transported from Hartlepool every week and help with the extensive work involved. It is hoped that they will also look after the vessel when she goes back.

Golden Gleam-(GG)



We are pleased to say that an agreement has eventually been reached with Northumbrian Fishing Heritage (NFH), formally NFHT, to have the coble Golden Gleam in our main workshop for extensive repairs. This welcome agreement also helps to cover our revenue costs. Initially for 6 months, then in July she will be transported by whatever means into the Boatshed for completion. This work is being done jointly with NFH and NEMT volunteers.

Workshop News

While boat building and repairs continue, the Trust has taken some bold steps recently to enable a more sustainable long term future. This will help promote the region's historical pre-eminence as inventors and manufacturers of ships, boats, tugboats and propulsion systems during the industrial revolution until recently. **Our motto:** we do everything we can and proceed with caution and integrity in everything we do.

NEMT AGM

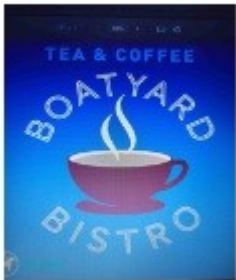
Our AGM was held in March and was well attended. Many thanks to all who took part.

I'm pleased to both welcome and report that the following members have been duly elected as Trustees of NEMT :Keith Trotter, and Glenn McCallum who will join Alec Renwick, Matthew Cunningham Kevin Lund and Sue Griffiths. Welcome aboard.

Your membership is important to NEMT to help maintain and improve our way forward. So please renew as soon as possible either as advised by email, or if you think your membership is overdue, just get in touch. Please also note that membership will cease to be active when reaching six months or more in arrears.

Email or just call in if you have any questions. Our membership numbers are reasonably stable and volunteering continues to grow. Hands-on volunteering has also increased slightly, but we need more. While not essential, anyone with woodworking skills or similar experience will be given some extra tea or coffee and even a sausage roll or two.

The Boatyard Bistro



With funding from our local Dogger Bank Wind Farm, we now promote our new small, but perfectly formed cafe to great effect. All are welcome to try our tea and fresh ground coffee and we appreciate all our customers' donations.

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

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