



NEWSLETTER

Issue 1

September 2007

Maritime Heritage East website

Thanks to those of you who have provided the info and images for the MHE website. It is still under development, more news and details of training dates soon.

The voices at the end of the phone

Fiona Ford is the Maritime Curator, based at Time and Tide. She can be contacted on 01493 743941



Katy Swift is the Project Researcher, with responsibility for the MHE website, based at Time and Tide. She can be contacted on 01493 743930



Maritime Heritage East An Introduction

Maritime Heritage East, led from Time and Tide, is a Renaissance funded initiative which aims to raise the profile and appreciation of the rich maritime collections in the East of England, and to develop local, regional and national partnerships. It is the only regional maritime development programme of its kind.

Over 30 other museums and heritage attractions from the coastal counties of Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex are currently on board.

A forthcoming website, public events, and a programme of exhibitions aim to endeavour to promote public interest in the regional maritime collections and make them more accessible. The first touring exhibition for 2008, *For Those in Peril*, will look at the dangers of life at sea (opening at Time and Tide Museum in April 2008).

The Maritime Curator can provide advice on maritime collections to museums across the region.



The Alarm of Ipswich 1865 by E.B. Hansen

Copyright of Ipswich Borough Council Museums and Galleries

The sharing of skills, information, specialist knowledge and resources amongst partners is being developed through practical dialogue, conferences, a members' newsletter and initiatives identified following a survey conducted with museums with strong maritime collections in the coastal counties of Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk.

www.Maritime Website Spot

In each issue we will highlight a recently launched or perhaps little known website which you may find useful or enjoy

www.seayourhistory.org.uk

is a new website launched by various museums that comprise the National Museum of the Royal Navy. Led by the Royal Naval Museum it primarily presents digitised images of collections from the stores .

An online exhibition explores themes such as the Navy's People, there are oral

history recordings including contemporary accounts of aspects of life in the navy, and the digitised image gallery includes cartoons and menus alongside the more familiar resources of photographs and drawings.

It's a really inspiring example of what can be achieved through partnership working.

Sailors' Valentines

The Peter Coke Shell Gallery in Sheringham displays a collection of shell art originally created after the artist was inspired by Sailors' Valentines seen in Barbados.

These intricate shell creations do not however fit into the tradition of sailors' crafts made aboard ship during idle hours. Rather, they were the products of a cottage industry on Barbados, a stopping point on long sea voyages. Sailors purchased them to present to a family member or loved one.

The early designs were an example of folk art influenced by European ladies' parlour arts of the 19th century. Exotic shells from around the world were displayed in glass covered compartmented boxes, with the shells organised by colour and size and in interesting patterns.

Traditionally the sailor's valentine included a heart, a flower design, and a message such as "Think of Me". The valentines were made in octagonal cedar or mahogany boxes reminiscent of compass cases, covered with a glass

overlay, and hinged to enable closure for protection. The partitions, in a variety of designs, are made of strips of cardboard covered with coloured paper, and the shells are glued into position over batting. The similarity of the designs suggest the majority were made in one place.



Sailor's Valentine at the Peter Coke Shell Gallery

However, high demand for shellwork eventually led to mass production of poor quality work and by the end of the 19th century shellwork was seen as in poor taste.

Dr John Gardiner of Sheringham Preservation Trust would be interested to hear from you if you have any Valentines in your collections. Tel: 01263 824343
Email: secretary@sheringham-preservation.org.uk

What are maritime collections?

Let me know your thoughts about what constitutes maritime collections—Fiona

It is obvious that boats and artefacts relating to fishing, lifesaving and the Royal Navy form part of maritime collections, but perhaps not so obvious that maritime collections include natural history specimens such as seal skeletons and fossilised echinoids.

The time scale not only ranges into geological periods with regard to sea-dwelling organisms, but includes archaeological objects such as bricquetage from salt pans, and modern collections such as sonar scans of the sea-bed.

Maritime History has been defined as 'Use of the Sea'. Maritime collections are not just to be found in historic collections, but also natural history, art, archaeology and scientific collections, and collections relating to the connecting inland waterway network

Paintings of ships clearly belong to maritime collections, but it is less apparent that mass-produced Sunderland lustre-ware depicting Jack Tar, would also be relevant, and also branded seaside souvenirs.

Documents and archives will also include menus from ship launches, certain greetings cards etc alongside the expected sea charts and dock blueprints.

Finally, objects relating to inland waterways are also relevant

Some Heritage Lottery Developments in Suffolk

Lydia Eva

Following the £839,000 Heritage Lottery Fund grant, work is underway over the summer and autumn on Lydia Eva, surveying the hull and careful replacement of the plating. And an Education and Accessibility Officer will shortly be appointed.



Lydia Eva on slip at Small and Co in Lowestoft

Lowestoft and East Suffolk Maritime Museum

Good news! £345,000 of Heritage Lottery funding has been awarded for the major extension and redisplay of the museum.

It will enable the provision of an education room and improve the care of collections. The designers have been appointed and building work is about to commence.



Inside Story Headline

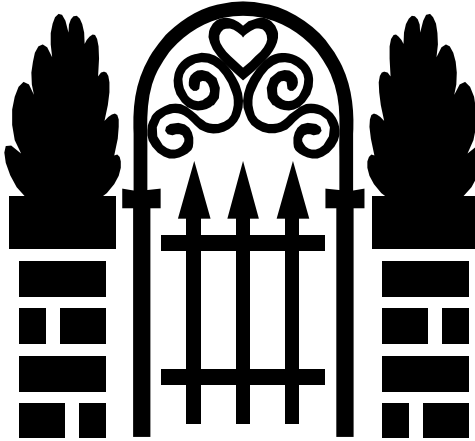
This story can fit 150-200 words.

One benefit of using your newsletter as a promotional tool is that you can reuse content from other marketing materials, such as press releases, market studies, and reports.

While your main goal of distributing a newsletter might be to sell your product or service, the key to a successful newsletter is making it useful to your readers.

A great way to add useful content to your newsletter is to develop and write your own articles, or include a calendar of upcoming events or a special offer that promotes a new product.

You can also research articles or find “filler” articles by accessing the World Wide Web. You can write about a variety of topics but try to keep your articles short.



Caption describing picture or graphic.

Much of the content you put in your newsletter can also be used for your Web site. Microsoft Publisher offers a simple way to convert your newsletter to a Web publication. So, when you're finished writing your newsletter, convert it to a Web site and post it.

Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 100-150 words.

The subject matter that appears in newsletters is virtually endless. You can include stories that focus on current technologies or innovations in your field.

You may also want to note business or economic trends, or make predictions for your customers or clients.

“To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here.”

If the newsletter is distributed internally, you might comment upon new procedures or improvements to the business. Sales figures or earnings will show how your business is growing.

Some newsletters include a column that is updated every issue, for instance, an advice column, a book review, a letter from the president, or an editorial. You can also profile new employees or top customers or vendors.

Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 75-125 words.

Selecting pictures or graphics is an important part of adding content to your newsletter.

Think about your article and ask yourself if the picture supports or enhances the message you're trying to convey. Avoid selecting images that



Caption describing picture or graphic.

appear to be out of context.

Microsoft Publisher includes thousands of clip art images from which you can choose and import into your newsletter. There are also several tools you can use to draw shapes and symbols.

Once you have chosen an image, place it close to the article. Be sure to place the caption of the image near the image.

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This would be a good place to insert a short paragraph about your organization. It might include the purpose of the organization, its mission, founding date, and a brief history. You could also include a brief list of the types of products, services, or programs your organization offers, the geographic area covered (for example, western U. S. or European markets), and a profile of the types of customers or members served.

It would also be useful to include a contact name for readers who want more information about the organization.

This story can fit 175-225 words.

If your newsletter is folded and mailed, this story will appear on the back. So, it's a good idea to make it easy to read at a glance.

A question and answer session is a good way to quickly capture the attention of readers. You can either compile questions that you've received since the last edition or you can summarize some generic questions that are frequently asked about your organization.

A listing of names and titles of managers in your organization is a good way to give your newsletter a personal touch. If your organization is small, you may want to list the names of all employees.

If you have any prices of standard products or services, you can include a listing of those here. You may want to refer your readers to any other forms of communication that you've created for your organization.

You can also use this space to remind readers to mark their calendars for a regular event, such as a breakfast

meeting for vendors every third Tuesday of the month, or a biannual charity auction.

If space is available, this is a good place to insert a clip art image or some other graphic.