

## SHTP Blog October Induction – Hannah Fraser

**Wednesday, 9 October**

We began the induction on Wednesday, 9th October, at Portsmouth. This included going through paperwork and the plan for the next 12 months. The induction was at Portsmouth Historic Dockyard in Boathouse 4, which was the perfect setting for the start of the traineeship. I had a chance to look around the boatyard - and to see people working on historic boats was an inspiration.



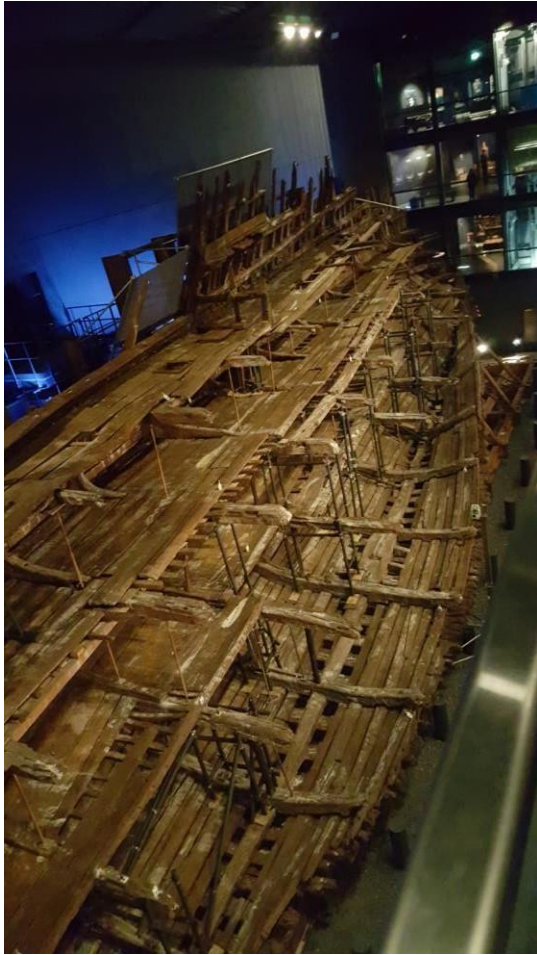
**Thursday, 10 October**

The next day I attended the networking day where project partners and representatives from the maritime industry attended. The day also included SHTP year one trainees' presentations of their year as a whole, and a day where trainees could network and get to know the project partners. In the evening, project partners and all trainees went for a meal and I found it was a great introduction in getting to know project partners in a less formal setting.

The networking day was at the National Museum of the Royal Navy and I got the chance to visit *HMS Victory*. I really enjoyed the Museum and getting the chance to see the experiences of the first year trainees.



## Friday, 11 October



The day started with project partners' presentations. All of the eight partners gave short presentation on their placements. During the summer there are two project placement rotations for two weeks at a time. The presentations were an opportunity for myself as a trainee to find out more about other placement opportunities. I particularly enjoyed Arabella Roberts presentation from the National Museum of the Royal Navy, in particular, the focus on conservation and preventative maintenance on historic vessels.

I also really enjoyed hearing from Simon Thompson from the *Cutty Sark*. The focus on preserving and maintaining the vessel really attracted me to wanting to choose my placement there.

I also had the opportunity to visit the *Mary Rose*; this was such an amazing experience for me. The scale of the ship was breathtaking. I had an amazing talk with the staff at the Museum who were so knowledgeable.

## Monday, 14 October

The start of the week in Falmouth I completed my Emergency First Aid at Work course. I thoroughly enjoyed the course and the trainer, John Brooks from Falmouth Training Solutions, was such a great person who made you feel very confident. The course included how to do resuscitation, what procedure to do when someone is choking and how to get someone into the recovery position, along with how to check if someone is responsive by using your voice to then using physical force such as pushing below the collarbones for a response.

## Tuesday, 15 October

On Tuesday there was a visit to the National Maritime Museum Falmouth workshop and boatyard. I met Mike Selwood, who works in the workshop and looks after the Museum's historic vessels collections. The visit was such a great opportunity for me as I got to see a lot of the collections that are not on display. Along with this, the workshop is also used to train apprentices in boat building. The set-up of the historic collections and the workshop alongside it I thought was such a positive environment to be in.



## Wednesday, 16 October

The day began with a visit to Luke Powell's working boat yard. Luke is a traditional boat builder who is currently building pilot cutter *Pellew*. Luke gave the background on the build and a tour of *Pellew*. Luke was such an interesting and passionate person who took the time to answer questions and explain the process of the build.



We then went to the National Maritime Museum in Falmouth and met with Reuben who works in the museum workshop. Reuben showed us around the workshop and *Emma*, a steam boat he is currently working on. Reuben did an apprenticeship in boat building and is now the Museum Shipkeeper.

The Museum had such an amazing collection and I spent hours looking at all of the boats on display. I particularly enjoyed the *Titanic* exhibition and the fishing industry section of the Museum.



#### **Thursday, 17 October and Friday, 18 October**



On Thursday I completed my Powerboat Level 2 course; it was such an amazing experience. It started with a theory session back at Falmouth Training Solutions with Roy and Simon. We went through all of the health and safety aspects, weather, and how to determine the tide. We then went out on the powerboat and started with basic manoeuvres, like doing a figure of eight.

The next day began with another theory session and focused a lot on the man overboard procedure. Also more of the safety aspects, including lifejackets and always wearing a kill cord. I then went out on the powerboat and completed how to retrieve a person if they went overboard. Also how to do an emergency stop safely and how to go from low to high speed safely.

#### **Saturday, 19 October**

On Saturday I completed the Personal Survival at Sea course. This started with a theory session back at Falmouth Training Solutions. It covered what to do in emergency situations from uncontrollable fire to sinking ships. I learned all about lifeboats and life rafts and how to safely deploy them. Along with emergency kit bags, what would be included in them and how to use items for various emergency situations.

In the evening I did the practical session that included jumping into a pool with my lifejacket to re-enact an emergency situation. Then what to do when you are in the water, how to conserve heat by bending your knees up, and how to cover your face to prevent swallowing too much sea water. Then I had to demonstrate getting into a life raft and how to turn a life raft over in the water when it is upside down.

#### **Sunday, 20 October to Thursday, 24 October**

On Sunday we arrived at Mayflower Marina and met Dominic and Barbara on the *Lynher* barge. I thoroughly enjoyed my time on *Lynher* and can definitely say that Dom and Barbara made a huge impact on me. Throughout my stay on *Lynher*, I learned how to row, how to do knots, how to do sculling. I learned about the history of the barge and the conservation of *Lynher*.

I also had a sailing theory session with Dom where he taught me about how sails work; also about wind awareness and the tides, along with all the different sails and rigs that different vessels have.

During the few days on *Lynher*, I also learned how to sail the Wayfairer, a small sailing boat. Along with rowing on a longboat, which was such a great experience. I also got to experience a day sail on *Lynher* and sailing skills.

Dom and Barbara were such an inspiring couple and I loved my time on the *Lynher* barge. I felt that I learned so much in those few days. I loved hearing the process that they went through when restoring her and their passion for *Lynher* shone through every detail of their amazing story. I can definitely say that my time on *Lynher* has had such a positive impact on myself personally and my thoughts toward a career in maritime heritage. I found that it is invaluable that I gain more experience being on working vessels in order for me to restore and conserve historic vessels. I found that boats have their own personalities and in order for me to feel confident in restoring or conserving a vessel, I need to take the time to get to know them first.



## Friday, 25 October to Wednesday, 30 October

I had a few free days when we arrived in Brixham, so I decided to explore the town and in particular the harbour. I found that Brixham had a strong sense of heritage in the fishing industry and it is still a busy working fishing harbour today. I loved watching the working fishermen coming in and out of the harbour and the fishing trawlers going out to sea. On Tuesday we visited Brixham Museum and I really enjoyed learning all about the history of the local fishing industry.

On Wednesday we completed the last day of the induction. I couldn't believe how much I had experienced throughout those three weeks. I can't wait to get started at the International Boatbuilding Training College and learn even more valuable skills!

