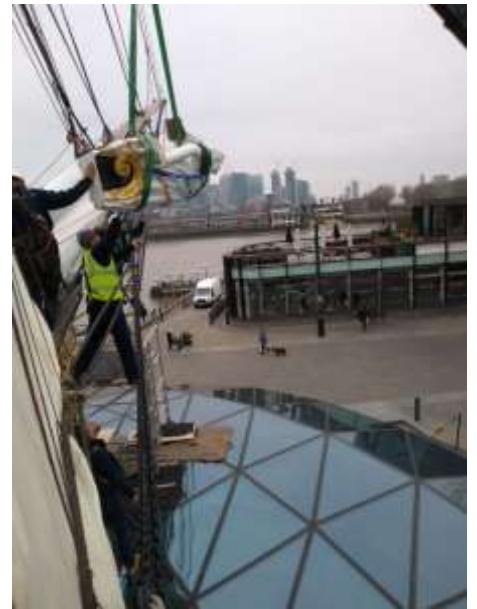


## Kate Tatlow – Update on Cutty Sark Placement 12 April 2019

Over the past month we have mainly been working to finish work to the monkey fo'c's'le at the bow of the ship now the deck has been laid. This has involved sanding and oiling the deck margins, rails and bullnosing. We have also reinstated the heads so I've spent significant amounts of time painting/hoovering in the toilet! Things are starting to come together and look shiny now ready for the summer and re-opening this part of the Cutty Sark to the public. Also making a welcome return to



the bow of the ship has been Nannie, the Cutty Sark's figurehead along with the catheads and capstan. These were all craned in with the use of many strops, straps and the extensive knowledge of the T.S Rigging and Cutty Sark teams.



In further figurehead news, Ben (Assistant Shipkeeping Technician here at Cutty Sark) and I cleaned the 'Long John Silver' collection of figureheads which are situated in the Sammy Ofer Gallery under the bow of the ship. These figureheads were donated by Sydney Cumbers and are from merchant ships of the 19th century; the collection includes Nannie, the figurehead of Cutty Sark. I absolutely love the colourful characters and expressions of the figurehead

collection and that these figures could represent both the spirit and protection of a vessel. It was a privilege to be involved with their conservation, although I did feel like a guest at a strange dinner party at times! More information about the figurehead collection can be found here: <https://www.rmg.co.uk/discover/museum-collections/ship-figureheads-and-decoration>



The rainy days this month have given me a chance to start writing some more assignments for the Historic Vessel Conservation Course which I am completing as part of the SHTP2 traineeship. I have enjoyed learning about the different forms of degradation that a historic vessel is at risk from and techniques which can be used to help stop it's condition from deteriorating while buying time to make records or help protect the vessel's future. I haven't done much writing since leaving university so it's been nice to do some more formal learning again!