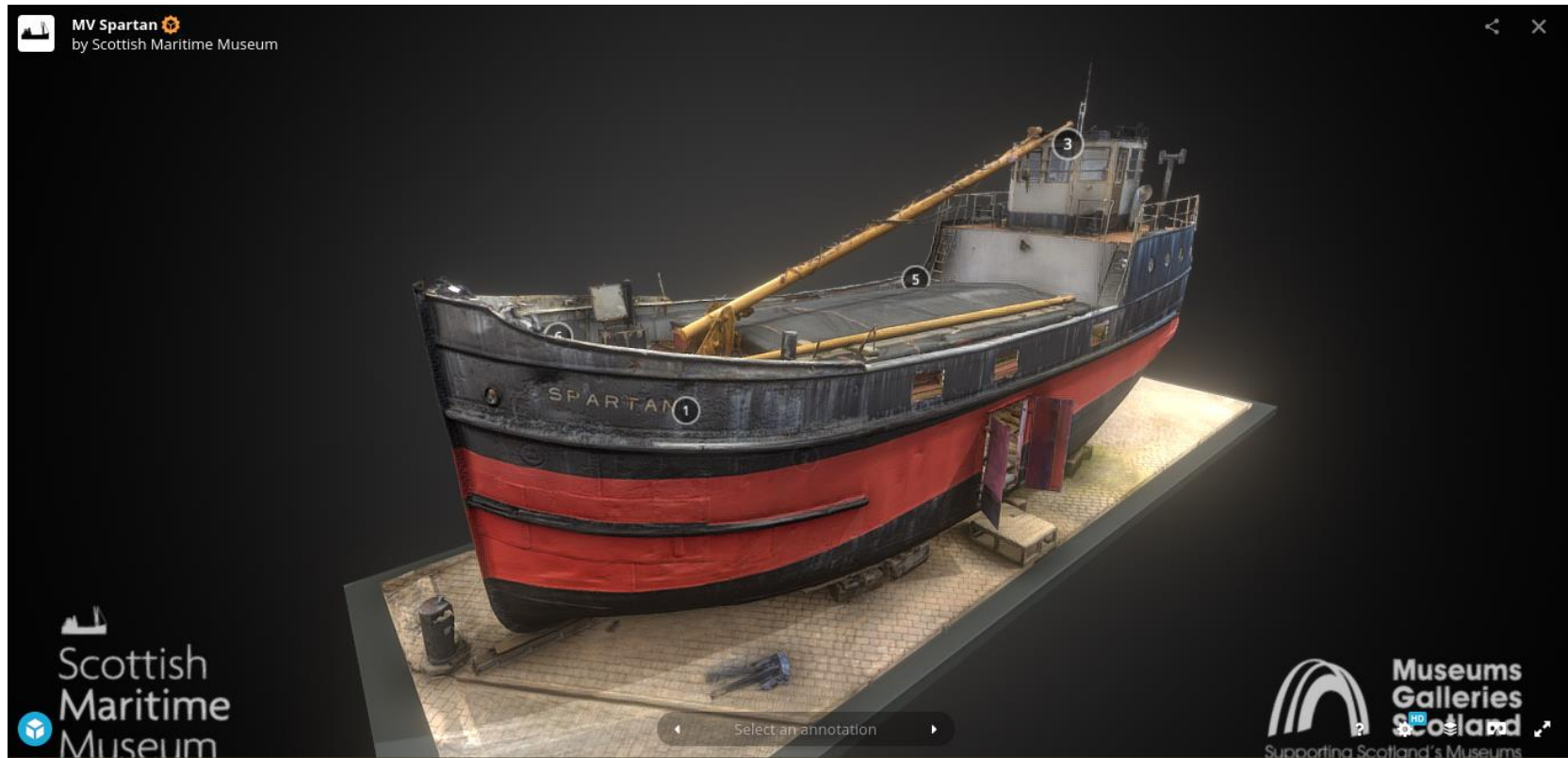


Online Explorations of the Maritime World



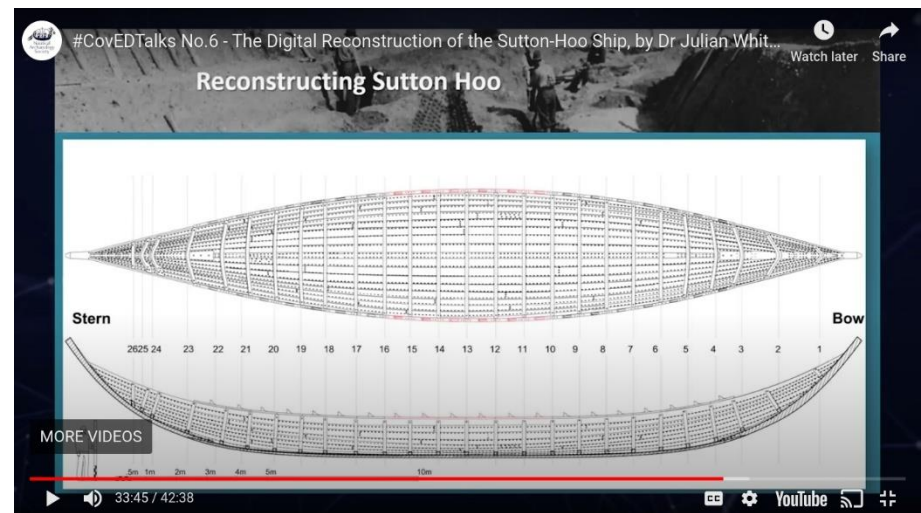
Throughout the month of May I've been steadily working on the online courses outlined in my last blog post, studying conservation methods, and making sure to end each day with a batch of digitisation.

I thought it would be nice to use this blog post to highlight the wealth of activities, talks and information that are available for self-study during this pandemic. I've used these resources as a chance to focus on something different throughout my day, to help keep myself engaged and prevent my mind from shutting down after spending hours writing notes. Outlined below are some of the more interesting resources I've been exploring:

Nautical Archaeology Society: CovED Talks

Since the end of March, the Nautical Archaeology Society have been hosting weekly talks on underwater archaeology, maritime heritage and foreshore archaeology. These have all been incredibly interesting and informative, and a highlight of my week! My favourite talks this month have been:

The digital reconstruction of the Sutton-Hoo ship



This talk was given by Julian Whitewright, a lecturer in Maritime Archaeology at the University of Southampton. Sutton Hoo is a 7th century Anglo Saxon ship burial; the talk discussed the background of the burial and its excavations, and the process for digitally reconstructing it.

Julian Whitewright was one of my lecturers when I was doing BSc Archaeology at Southampton, so it was great to get an update on his current research project and learn from him again!

Vietnam's Shipwreck Coast

This talk was given by Ian McCann from the University of New England in Australia. It provided an overview of the work being done by the Vietnam Maritime Archaeology Project, which has been investigating Vietnam's maritime heritage.



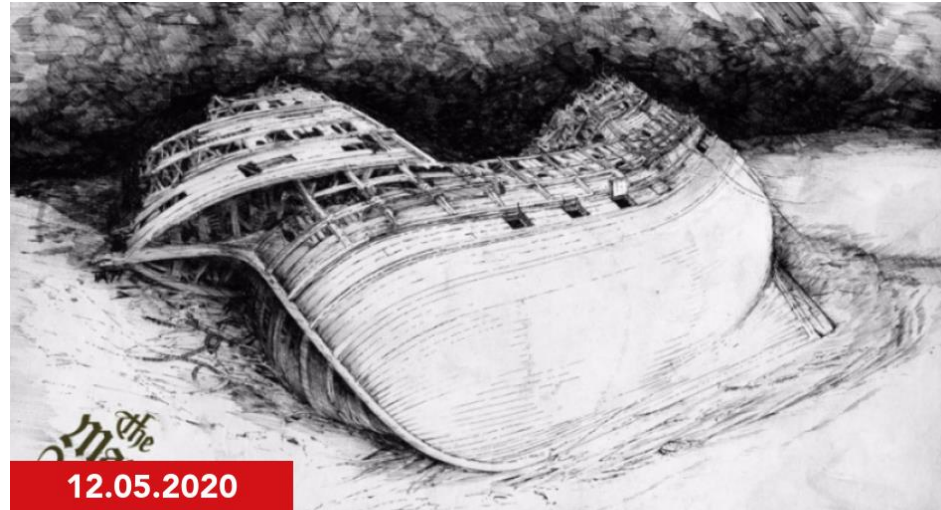
I found this lecture particularly interesting as it tapped into my passion for learning about traditional maritime practices. I wrote my Masters dissertation on fish ponds in Bermuda so I was delighted to find that they had uncovered possible evidence of a similar form of fish trapping in Vietnam.

You can catch up with the NAS CovED Talks by following the link below:

<https://www.nauticalarchaeologysociety.org/coved-talks-weekly-webcast>

Another series I've been closely following is by ICON:

Caring for the Mary Rose – A Coronavirus Case Study



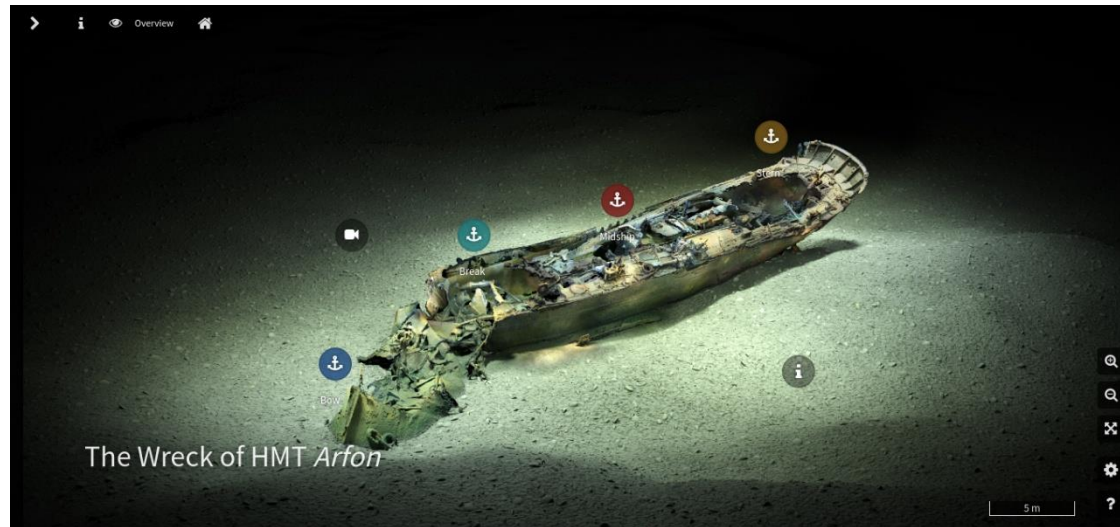
Caring for the Mary Rose - a Coronavirus Case Study (3)

This blog has taken us through the process of conserving the *Mary Rose* whilst in lockdown. It has been really interesting to read about the concerns and steps that have been taken to ensure that the condition of the ship and artefacts doesn't deteriorate during the lockdown.

This month, the blog was written by Karoline Sofie Hennem, an Erasmus student doing an internship in conservation science at the Mary Rose Trust. When the lockdown came in effect Karoline decided to stay in England and continue with her internship, and it was really interesting to read about how she has organised her time over the lockdown to ensure that she is keeping engaged and focused.

<https://icon.org.uk/news/caring-for-the-mary-rose-a-coronavirus-case-study-3>

Historic England Virtual Dive Trails



Historic England has used multi-image photogrammetric recording and virtual reality techniques to allow people to access some of their amazing protected wreck sites: <https://historicengland.org.uk/get-involved/visit/protected-wrecks/virtual-dive-trails/>

When volunteering in Bermuda a few summers I was working with the Custodian of Wrecks, Philippe Rouja, and he had just started working on a new project called The Bermuda 100 Challenge (<http://bermuda100.ucsd.edu/index.html>), where the goal is to digitise 100 or more of Bermuda's shipwrecks so people would be able to explore them online. This is an amazing concept and a great way of allowing people who would be unable to access wrecks (for a variety of reasons), to explore and experience those incredible environments. I hope that I get the chance to be involved in projects like this again in the future, but for now getting the chance to use similar tools are a great way of making me feel like I am back underwater again!

Another photogrammetry project I've been exploring was instituted by the Scottish Maritime Museum, who have made their collection of boats available to be explored in 3D online: <https://www.scottishmaritimemuseum.org/3d-collections/>

More routes to explore the maritime world from home are appearing every day. One of the effects of this pandemic is the increased digital presence of museums and heritage organisations in general. My hope is that this increased presence has meant that the reach of these organisations has expanded considerably, bringing in more people and communities who wouldn't have visited or learned about them in normal circumstances.