

SHTP October Blog- Hannah Fraser

October started with all of the trainees finally meeting up again in Bristol, it was great to see everyone again. During the Bristol trip we visited M-Shed and had an amazing tour of the collections stores by the Curator. We also had tours of their working vessels and had a presentation and talk from their Senior Curator. We also got the opportunity to visit SS *Great Britain* and had a really interesting talk with the ships Conservation Engineer and Director. It was very interesting to hear about their conservation plan and how they look after the vessel's historic fabric.



The amazing collection stores at M-Shed and on the right aboard fire-boat *Pyronaut* with *John King* in front.

Back at the Museum I have been completing the re-packing process of the Gansey collection. I have also been updating the storage system so that the Ganseys are more easily accessible in the future.



On the left in the process of updating the Gansey storage, re-packing the Ganseys into individual trays and adding photos of the individual Gansey patterns to make it more accessible and easy to see for future use.



I also completed some collections cleaning which was great for me to focus on and get more experience with. I cleaned out display cases and the various collections items such as the model boats along with recording any pests found.

I also had the opportunity to give a training session to staff on how to complete the accessioning process and adding new objects onto the Museum database. This was a great opportunity for me to broaden my skills and add to my CV.

I also attended an online training session with Fife Voluntary Action about volunteer management. It was a really helpful and detailed session where I gained new knowledge about the fine details and policies relating to managing volunteers. This training added vital knowledge that I can now bring forward into my career.

Along with all of this, I completed conservation work on one of the static boats on display in the Museum. The boat had been badly attacked by woodworm. I treated the wood with a boron salt insecticidal treatment, brushing over the affected areas and left to dry.



Above showing the boat I treated with boron salt treatment and on the left a close up of the signs of woodworm.

The most exciting update for me was receiving news that I had been given an extension for my traineeship until December. I just wanted to say a huge thank you to National Historic Ships UK, The National Lottery Heritage Fund for making it possible and of course The Scottish Fisheries Museum. I look forward to gaining more experience and learning even more skills in the next few months.