

Work Experience: Case Study

S Gorman: KS4, June 2024

Learning objective: To understand the historic importance of the Historic Oyster Yawl, 'Gamecock', to the local community in Whitstable.

Learning activities:

- Desk based research into the history of Oysters at Whitstable
- Walk the 'Whitstable Coastal Trail' to identify key historic points relating to boat building
- Both desk based and in-person research to understand the importance of boat building in Whitstable

Student feedback:

"My work experience at Whitstable Maritime Charity was incredibly rewarding. I had the chance to be involved in multiple activities, including fundraising, raising awareness in the community, and participating in some of the project work currently in progress. They are restoring a National Historic Ship called the Gamecock, which was built in 1906, and I had the chance to learn about its history and significance during that time. I also explored the inside of the boat and learned about their methods of restoration. This helped me gain a deeper understanding of the community's maritime history and the importance of preserving it for future generations.

Additionally, I worked with the charity's photographer to produce material for the Whitstable Coastal Trail leaflet and website, which aims to encourage tourism and engage the local community in exploring Whitstable. Overall, this opportunity promoted my personal growth by building my confidence, as I stepped outside of my comfort zone and took on new responsibilities. It was inspiring to see how a charity can make a real impact, and it has motivated me to think about ways I can contribute to similar causes in the future."

