

Whitstable Maritime

AGM: November 2025



Whitstable Maritime: AGM 23 Nov 2025

- Apologies
- Minutes from last AGM
- Financial Report
- Chair's Report
 - Whitstable Maritime Strategy
 - Preserving Heritage
 - Environmental conservation
 - Community Activity & Volunteering
- 2026 Priorities
- Election of Officers



Whitstable Maritime: Financial Report

STATEMENT as of 17th November 2025: £35,500.

- WM Bank account has separate funds: Gamecock (split into materials and salary), Coastal trail, WM General fund

Gamecock 'materials' Income/spending: 1.4.25 - 17.11.25	
GCM Opening balance	£5,158
Payments / Donations	£4,650
Costs	-£75
GCM Closing balance	£9,733

Gamecock 'wages' Income/spending: 1.4.25 - 17.11.25	
GCW Opening balance	£4,405
Payments / Donations	£29,335
Costs	-£14,837
GCW Closing balance	£18,903

Coastal Trail Income/spending: 1.4.25 - 17.11.25	
CT Opening balance	£2,722
Brochure re-design and print	-£1,715
CT Closing balance	£1,007

Whitstable Maritime General Fund Income/spending: 1.4.25 - 17.11.25	
WM Balance	£2,340
Various fund raising activity	£3,818
Costs	-£3,826
WMGF Closing balance	£2,332



The Whitstable smack *Gamecock* being raced by her owner, Bill Coleman, in the 1981 Swale Match. *Gamecock* was built by Collar Brothers and launched on 14 June 1967, the last at Whitstable. (Chris Davey, Whitstable Times)



Gamecock Strategic Plan for a new future



2026-2030 Strategic Planning

- Community focused vision for using maritime heritage and marine environment for community benefit.
- Clear mission & vision around helping those experiencing hardship or disadvantage.
- How our heritage and Env provides 6 core benefits over 3 Key Projects
- Setting out our aspirations, commitments and goals for each of the 6 core benefits.

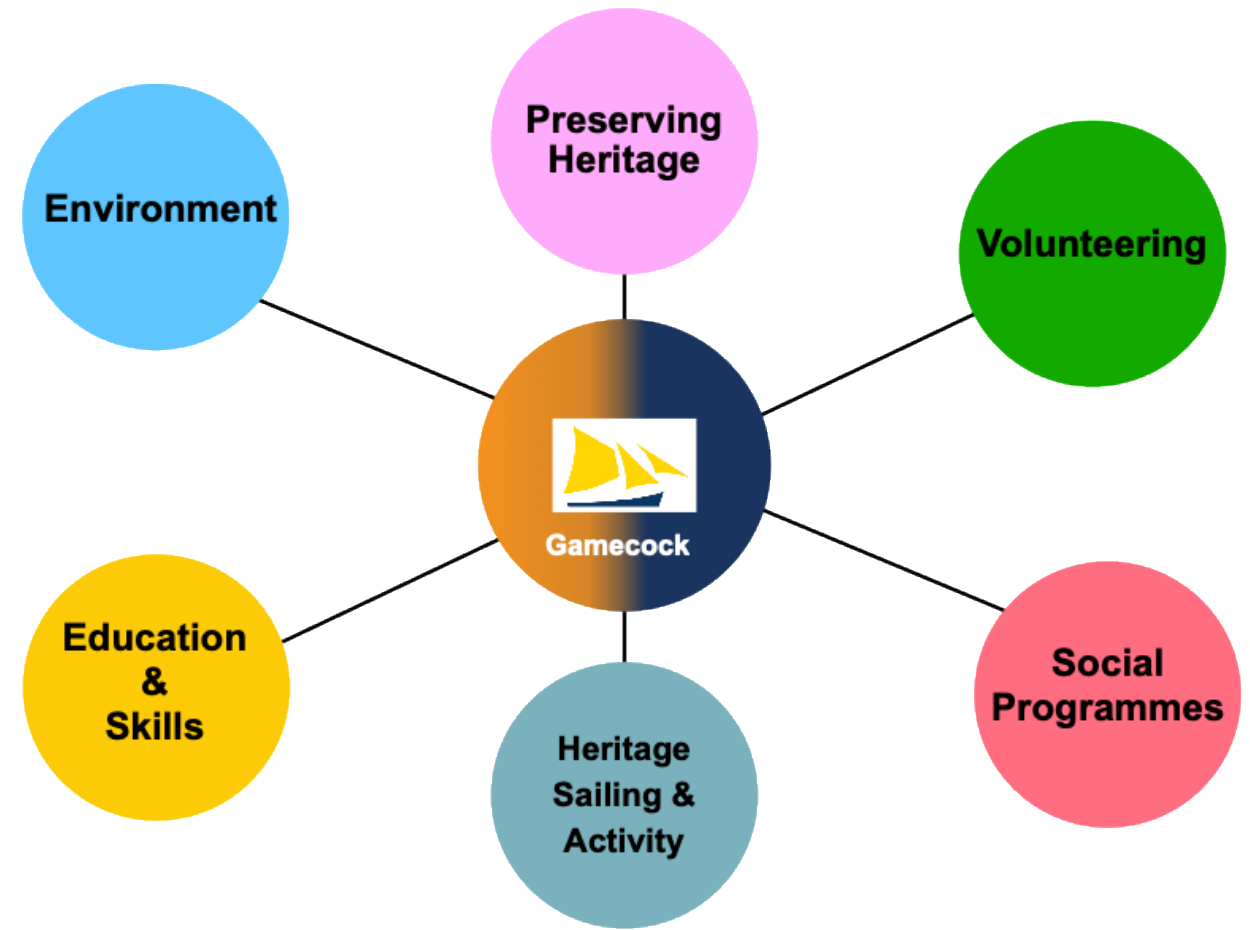


Whitstable Maritime's Strategy for Gamecock

Our Vision is for GC to play a powerful role in community building, healthy living, learning, and positive outcomes for people.

We want GC to:

- be a cultural asset attracting people to come to Whitstable
- drive regional visitor and local community engagement
- Offer an inclusive opportunity to access our 6 core benefits



Gamecock Restoration



What can Gamecock do for People?

Education & Skills

Heritage Sailing

Social Programmes

Volunteering

Preserving Heritage

Environment

 **Preserving Heritage** –restoration, traditional craft skills, Whitstable's oyster culture and identity, Heritage Hbrs, Harbour Day

 **Skills** – Re-establishing routes to work in UK's maritime sector & engaging those in receipt of free school meals

 **Education & Training**- Young learners (Ed Shed); Y12 work placements + maritime focus

 **Sailing** – Oyster sailing experiences and community sailing provision

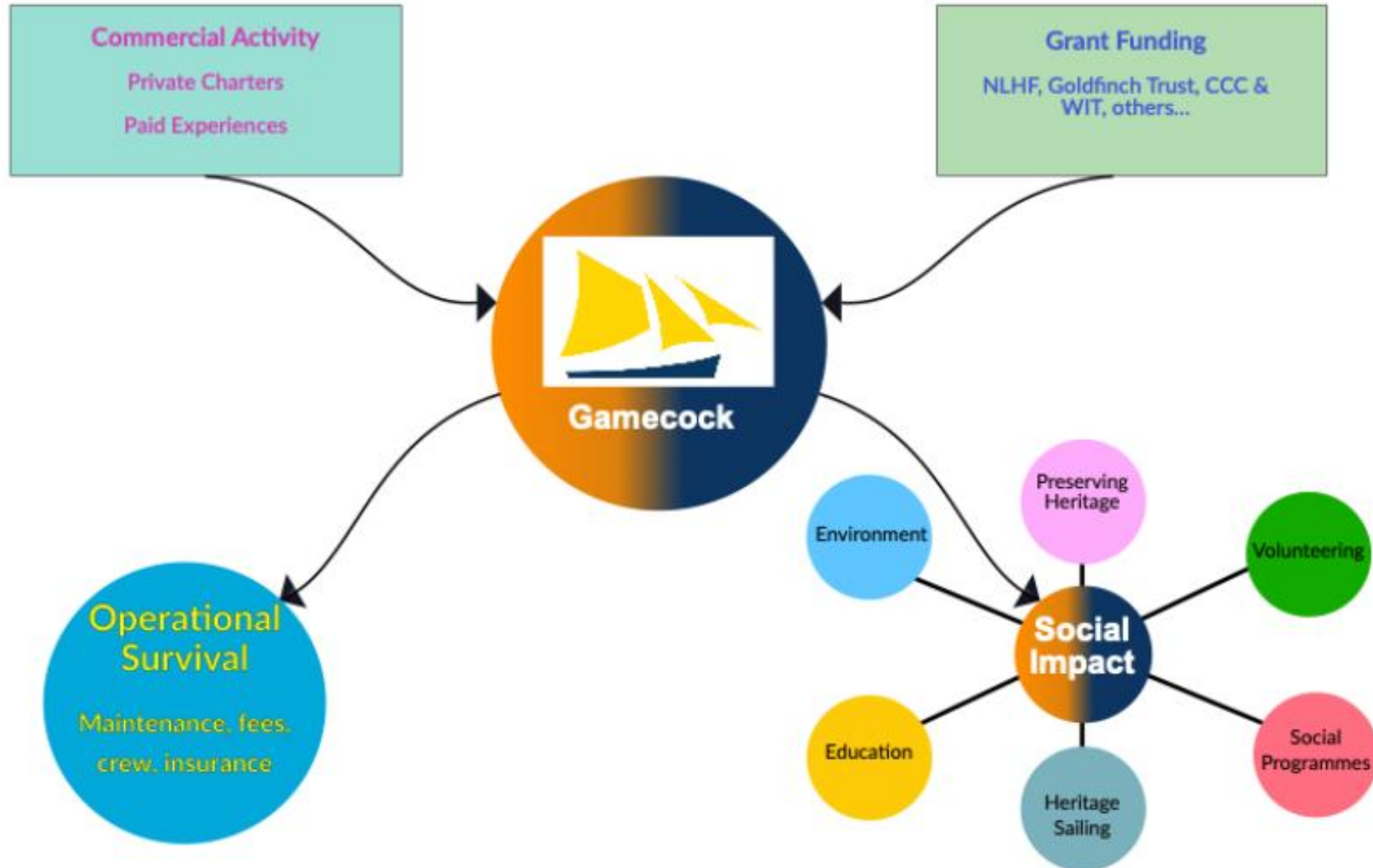
 **Volunteering** – For locals, NEETs, retirees, and local business collaboration/staff days

 **Environment** – Wellbeing & support through access to the marine environment for those experiencing disadvantage

 **Environment** - Supporting Whitstable's Net Zero ambitions via low-carbon boating & engaging people with the natural seascape/ecosystem and the value in conservation of this resource.

Gamecock: Profit for Purpose Model

Sustainable Social Enterprise through Maritime Heritage Activity



Gamecock Operational Activity Overview

Education	Maritime Activity	Community Activity & Programmes	Volunteering	Preserving Maritime Heritage	Environment
1. Future Heritage Leaders work experience scheme; raising awareness of opportunities into the wider maritime sector 2. KS 1-3 School visits; Whitstable's Oyster culture, maritime heritage, past and present connections to the sea, art workshops, wider education alongside Whitstable Hbr Education Centre and Coastal Trail 3. Apprentice work placements 4. Environmental & maritime research with higher education and Industry organisations 5. Heritage sail training: sail & maintenance (shore based), boat building opportunities 6. Shore based oyster/maritime, environment and heritage themed activity, eg workshops on knot making, activities via the Harbour Education Centre; Coastal Trail and collaborations with the Whitstable Museum & Horsebridge Centre.	1. Commercial charter oyster/ heritage/ sailing experiences; tourism, locals, corporate days; eg 1.5hr oyster dredging experience , mini voyages; Herne Bay, Faversham, Swale, Queenborough, Ramsgate (Heritage Harbour link), Chatham dockyard 2. Barge Matches 3. Sailing connected to community not for profit/social programme activity, eg SEND, social prescription/mental health support, domestic abuse victim support 4. Onboard & shore-based oyster & maritime heritage themed experiences 5. Carrying cargo under sail, low carbon local coastal delivery service. 6. Events; Oyster Festival, Whitstable Harbour Day.	A range of non-commercial activity aimed at engaging and supporting the needs of local and regional community: 1. Young Offenders & social justice 2. Vulnerable adults 3. Vulnerable children 4. People experiencing disadvantage or barriers to accessing heritage benefits 5. NEETs 6. Increasing access to heritage for those with, physical, mobility or sensory differences 7. Tackling mental health, loneliness and other wellbeing needs in the community 8. Community groups; cadets, scouts	1. Maintenance & repair, boat yard activities. 2. Administrative support across all areas of Gamecock's operational roles 3. Support for wider charitable work in education and other social programmes 4. Fund raising	1. Restoration, ongoing maintenance and operational role of Gamecock 2. Providing various unique heritage themed maritime experiences 3. Heritage Harbour status; supporting Whitstable Harbour to gain and leverage status for wider community benefit 4. Barge Matches 5. Whitstable Harbour Day 6. Oyster Festival 7. Increasing access to heritage via activities aboard and the Heritage Costal Trail Sound Maps.	1. Tackling climate change & Net Zero; sea monitoring, low carbon tourism and freight opportunities 2. Sustainable construction and maintenance methods 3. Environmental themed leisure, health and education activities targeted at various user groups 4. Sustainable fishing/dredging

Engaging our Local Community

- 🤝 **Volunteer** – Join our crew in diverse roles across the charity.
- 💙 **Sponsor** – Align your business with a community cause.
- 📣 **Promote** – Bring people to the Harbour and support local business vitality.
- 💡 **Collaborate** – Partner with other local organisations to share expertise and strengthen our charity
- 🌊 **Support Harbour Day & The Heritage Coastal Trail** as a means to encourage people to come to Whitstable and engage with us and our community focused work.

Gamecock Restoration Journey

Key elements of restoration activity up until the move in April '26

Topic	Activity
Port planks	Making new plank sections and fitting original repaired sections
Keel bolts	Cutting to length and cutting threads, drilling counter bore holes under keel and bolting keelson and keel together
Internal bracing structure	Construction of timber frame to strengthen hull during lift and transit
Replacement of temporary fixings in port and starboard planking	Replace corroded screws with new longer ones

Volunteers helping with:

- Assisting with hull planking, i.e. making plank patterns, planning timber down to size, cutting trunnels to size, assisting in fixing planks to the hull
- Painting bitumen primer on the planks to use, sharpening tool blades, adjusting scaffolding
- Measuring & cutting keel bolts to length, & cutting threads on ends



Gamecock Restoration Journey

Work elements on the hull post move ...

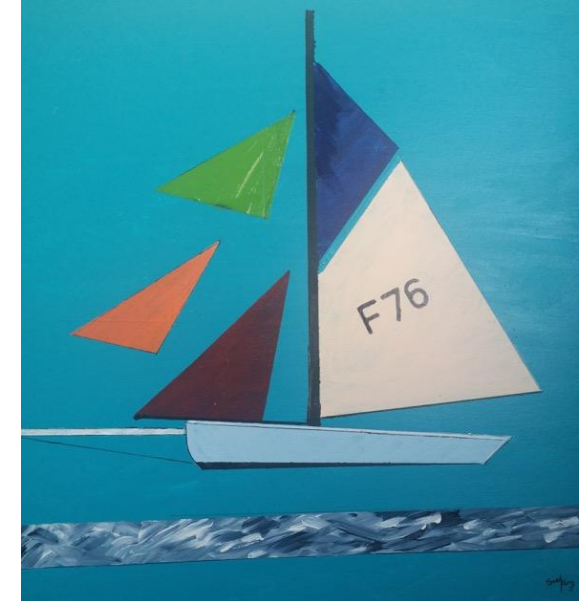
Topic	Activity
Port planking	Complete port side planking
Starboard frames	Join doubles together and remove broken nails and plug holes
Starboard planking	Remove old planking, fair frames, repair and renew planks
Beam clamps	Fit original sections and renew others
Deck beams	Cut and fit new deck beams
Stringers	Fair inside of hull and fit original sections and renew others
Knees and stanchions and knight heads	Fit original ones and renew others
Stem	Renew stem
Rudder truck	Renew rudder trunk

Topic	Activity
Bitts	Repair / renew original
Horn timbers	Renew stern horn timbers
Transom planks	Renew planks on transom
Deck	Renew timber laid deck
Deck hatches	Renew fore, main and aft hatches
Bulwarks	Renew bulwarks and capping rails
Rudder	Repair/ renew rudder
Anchor windlass	Make new wooden barrel and new ruffle
Cleats and pin rails	Make new cleats and pin rails

Gamecock Restoration Journey

Packages to complete restoration work ...

Topic	Activity
Spars	Main mast, Top mast, Gaff, Boom, Bowsprit Boom support, Whisker pole
Rigging	Galvanised wire standing rigging Tangs & chain plates & block take off points Traditional wooden blocks & cleats topside (+ consider necessity of modern) Ropes & lines (traditional & modern braids) Winches
Sails	Mainsail, topsail, staysail, jib, jib topsail
Engine	Position (Athwartships under aft deck? Diesel 4 cylinder 55 bhp or Electric? Single or twin props (folding props?)
Batteries & Electrics	2 x 12 volt 110ah Engine actuator, or Sterling 240 volt charger (shore connected) Control systems & instruments (Nav, depth, radio, lights...)
Ancillaries	Anchors & chain Safety equipment



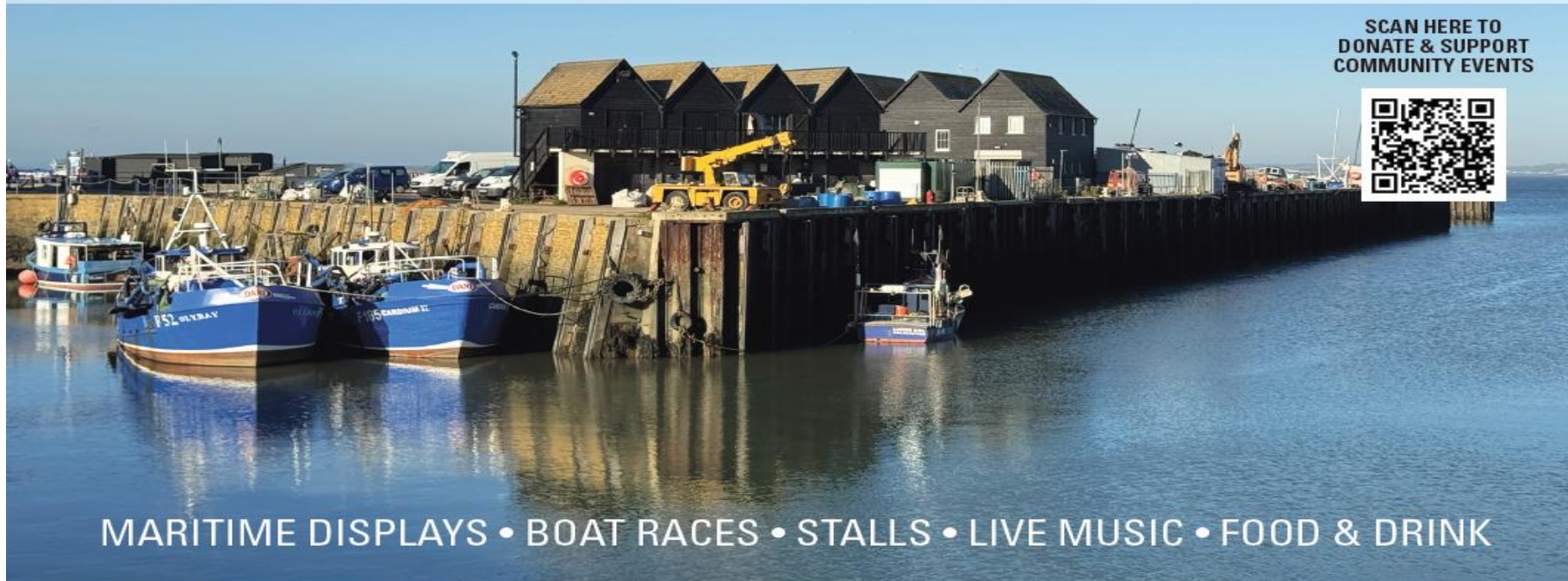
Thank you for supporting our vision for Gamecock's future.



Whitstable Harbour & Boat Show: Preserving Heritage



SATURDAY 9 AUGUST 2025 - 10.30AM - 4.30PM



SCAN HERE TO
DONATE & SUPPORT
COMMUNITY EVENTS



MARITIME DISPLAYS • BOAT RACES • STALLS • LIVE MUSIC • FOOD & DRINK



Cardium Shellfish

Next Year's Show: 15 August 2026

- GREAT feedback from 2025 show. Lots of interest in holding it again in 2026. Plan to repeat 1 day format ...



***‘community event,
run by the community
for the community’***

**Get involved:
whitstablem@gmail.com**



Heritage Harbours

Place of historic maritime significance, coastal or inland, that retains original features, buildings and facilities important for supporting historic vessels and maritime skills, which help connect the public to the UK's maritime past.

Joint initiative between local groups and Maritime Heritage Trust, National Historic Ships and Historic England which helps safeguard and conserve our most historic locations.

Aims to create a shared understanding of the long-term benefits heritage can have to an area, including:

- protection of heritage assets at risk
- support for local business growth
- increase tourism
- improve community cohesion and inclusivity
- attract investment
- attract heritage funding



Why Whitstable?



Whitstable is awash with maritime-related heritage! Whitstable Heritage Harbour Assets and Projects include ...

- The Harbour basin and quay
- Stables (Whitstable Marine)
- Harbour Boat Yard (Whitstable Marine and Yacht Club)
- SE&CR Metal Gates
- Brett's
- Oyster Company Buildings on East Quay
- Invicta Locomotive & Crab & Winkle Railway
- Steam Packet
- Fishing industry (Whelks, Sprats, Cockles, Fish)
- Gamecock
- Sea Wall
- Greta



- Bowling club
- The Favourite
- Leney's (forge café)
- Model of Harbour (SQS)
- Harbour and Boat Show
- Sea Scouts
- Harbour Heritage Archive
- Promotional Film of the Harbour's Heritage
- The Backwater
- Ship building & repair and old shipyards
- Sea walls and history of floods
- Harbour Heritage Archive at Whitstable Museum

Whitstable Coastal & Heritage Trail



Exclusive
Discounts at
Coastal Trail
Businesses

WHITSTABLE COASTAL TRAIL

A bespoke trail for walkers, cyclists, runners and anyone with mobility limitations to explore the local landscape & maritime heritage.

Whitstable Coastal & Heritage Trail



Objective: Improving Accessibility on the Whitstable Coastal Trail for People with Impaired Visibility

- Pilot project to understand how accessible the trail is for sight-impaired visitors and identify specific improvements that could make the route safer, more navigable and more enjoyable.
- Participants provided feedback on:
 - The usability of existing trail materials
 - Physical and sensory features that support or hinder navigation
 - Opportunities for tactile, audio, or guided enhancements
 - Suggestions for inclusive design and wayfinding

Student Work Experiences & Internships

Work Experience: Case Study

E Carr: KS3, July 2025

Learning objective:

Heritage Preservation: restoration of historic Whitstable Oyster Yawl (Gamecock).

- Increase exposure to heritage craft of traditional boat-building
- Gain wood working skills and an understanding of how these are used in traditional boat building and restoration



Work Experience: Case Study

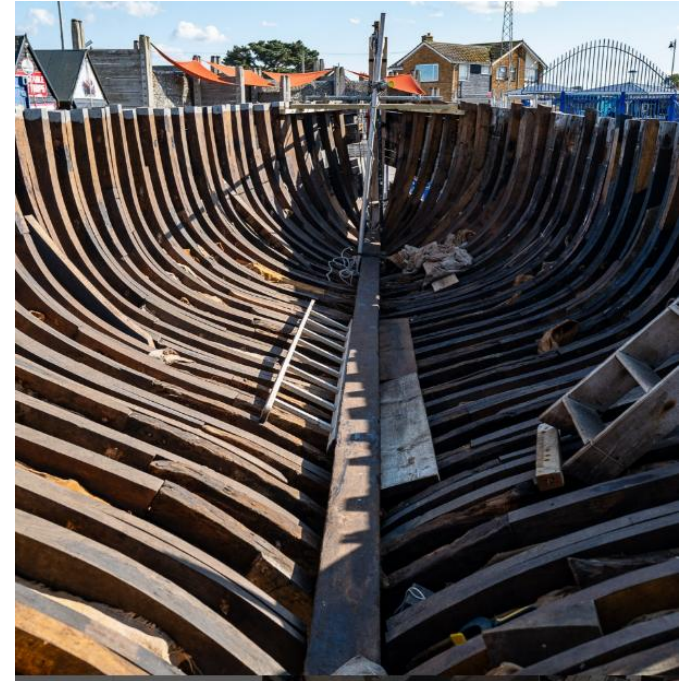
C Johnson: KS4, June 2025

Learning objective: To undertake community research and outreach in order to understand the level of interest in a Membership Programme with Whitstable Maritime

Internship: Case Study

H Newnham: Intern with The CrownEstate, 2025

Learning objective: To develop, organise and promote a community event around Great British Beach Clean. Ensure engagement and participation from various local community organisations which support protecting the local environment.



Whitstable Maritime: Volunteering

Volunteer of the Year: 2025

Gordon Butler!



Whitstable Maritime: 2026 Priorities



- Build out the strategic aims
- Ongoing fund raising – big decisions!
- Lead Whitstable Harbour & Boat Show 2026
- Heritage Harbours Initiative
- 2026 Work Experience & Internship opportunities
- Gamecock move due to planned engineering works

Whitstable Maritime: Election of Officers

- Everyone involved in Whitstable Maritime is a volunteer. They currently bring varied experience
- We are happy to welcome these outstanding individuals to our board.
 - Chair
 - Treasurer
 - Secretary
 - Strategy & Compliance
 - Trustees

Whitstable Maritime: 2025 - 2085

Stay connected, get involved, follow us:



@whitstable_maritime



whitstablemaritime



Whitstable Maritime

Web: www.whitstablemaritime.org.uk

Email: whitstablem@gmail.com



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