



The  
**MARY  
ROSE**

# learning matters

The Newsletter from the Mary Rose Learning Team

## Grant awarded for science

**W**e were delighted to be awarded a £600k grant from the Lloyd's Register Educational Trust. The three-year grant will support an innovative range of science activities for children and young people aged 7-18. The project links science in the world of work to the National Curriculum and allows students to use high-tech equipment both at the museum and remotely in school. There will also be a range of web-based activities accessed through the creation of a virtual science laboratory. The Mary Rose collection lends itself extremely well to cross-curricular teaching from a science and engineering core. Maths, IT, design technology and history are all closely linked to the project.

Michael Franklin, Director of the LRET, said: "The LRET looks for outstanding organisations that work with young people to show them how exciting, worthwhile and rewarding science and engineering are. The Mary Rose and its many unique artefacts open up valuable scientific insights and that is why we have decided to fund the Mary Rose Trust's science teaching programme for schoolchildren. With a focus on the hull itself and also by making innovative use of the internet, this programme will motivate youngsters in the UK and elsewhere to study science through school and university and, eventually, to make it their career."



Michael Franklin with a local comprehensive school student in the teaching laboratory

### School visits after September 2009

**D**iscovery visits to the museum will be enhanced after September 2009 when the ship hall will close to the public as work begins on building an exciting new museum which will open in 2012. Pupils will be introduced to the Mary Rose by a new short film before visiting the museum where a large screen will show the ship under conservation. Staff and volunteers will be on hand to engage with pupils through questions and hands-on activities. Workshops will run in the museum classroom as well as the sail-loft, a new teaching space in Storehouse 10. Following the success of our Barber-Surgeon workshops for secondary pupils, we have developed a new cross-curricular history/science session entitled 'In sickness and in health'.

Thanks to a new partnership with Hampshire County Council, schools within the county authority are entitled to a free learning workshop (normal entrance charges will still apply).

### STOP PRESS

The Learning Department has been awarded the Learning Outside the Classroom Quality Badge. Developed as part of the Learning Outside the Classroom Manifesto, this national initiative aims to ensure young people are given more opportunities to get out and about as part of the curriculum. The badge is designed to make it easier for teachers to identify providers of quality educational visits.

To gain the award you must demonstrate the commitment of your organisation to providing high quality learning as well as good practice in six particular areas which cover all aspects of the experience. These include information for teachers on planning and booking, activities and resources which meet the needs of all pupils, evaluation and monitoring and safety management.



# Community Visits throughout Hampshire and beyond

The Mary Rose Outreach Programme continues to flourish and expand further afield. This is partly due to generous benefactors and in particular The Band Trust which has kindly supported the programme over the last three years and the Hon Charles Harris who generously donated a new car in January of this year.



*The Hon Charles Harris officially hands over the new car to Trevor Sapey*

A great variety of groups including Headway, Open Sight, Stroke groups, Gateway Clubs and hospices are now visited in East and West Sussex, Surrey and London in addition to Portsmouth, Southampton and the Isle of Wight. Hampshire in particular is now benefiting from this free service involving visits to the Countess Mountbatten Hospice and visually impaired groups across the county. Visits have been offered to a further 13 Day Centre Services for Age Concern

Hampshire. The handling of real and replica artefacts brings history alive for the many visually impaired groups throughout Hampshire. They are able to engage with the presentation which involves a high amount of audience participation. The Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind – Open Sight – Lymington wrote: 'We all enjoyed this presentation especially the visually impaired members. It was interesting and good fun to see and feel a whole number of artefacts and hear about the sinking of the Mary Rose. Excellent!'

Vitalise, a holiday centre for the disabled and their carers in Netley, Hampshire now have regular evening presentations where the trying on of costumes by all has proved very popular and entertaining. The handling of the replica artefacts in the form of 'guess the mystery object' guarantees laughter late into the night. Jo Hall, the manager at Vitalise, wrote: 'I thought your evening here at Netley was fantastic, as did our guests. You make it interesting and fun, I wish they had taught at school in your way, we would all have learnt so much more!'

The Romsey Gateway Club was equally positive: 'A great time was had by members and helpers...A good mix of facts and fun at just the right level. Well done and thank you!' As a result of these presentations, 60–80 members

of Brockenhurst and Romsey Gateway Clubs for adults with learning disabilities will be visiting the Museum later this year. They are encouraged to visit because of the empathy that the team and the Trust show towards their special needs.

These community visits are adapted to meet the specific learning needs of individual groups. The key to success is group involvement in a fun and light hearted manner. The Trevor and team win new friends for the Mary Rose wherever they go.



*Community Outreach in action*

## Museum and Heritage Show Awards for Excellence Shortlist Second Year Running



*Trevor and the Portsea Venture Playground team with the new Tudor house*

We were very pleased to be shortlisted for the second year running for the Museum

and Heritage Show Awards for Excellence - Educational Initiative. Our entry was based on the Great Harry project - building a giant Tudor playship in a local playground. The other candidates were The Natural History Museum (winner), Manchester Museum, National Museums Liverpool and the Museum of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society. Trevor Sapey, Community Engagement Officer, attended the award ceremony with Ken Abbott, Portsea Venture Playground Manager. The partnership has continued this year with the construction of a Tudor house and

garden in the playground. This has been a wonderful community project involving a variety of groups, including Mary Rose School and Gateway. This work has led to a strong community partnerships which extend far beyond the project. The Playground now borrows a minibuses from the Mary Rose School to take the children on trips outside the city. The Gateway Club has introduced a community service element into their schedule. Both the ship and house will provide the opportunity for children to learn more about the Mary Rose and Tudor life in a fun and active way.

# Henry 500 Celebrations

A variety of learning events and activities took place as part of the Portsmouth Festivities.

Schools took part in healthy eating workshops which were delivered in partnership with the Southern Co-operative. Staff from the Co-op brought a selection of food to compare with the diet of the sailors on the Mary Rose. "I wanted to pass on the sincere thanks from all the kids and staff from Corpus Christi School for the amazing workshop that was presented today. They all thoroughly enjoyed the presentation and learnt so much". A competition to design a Tudor banquet menu fit for Henry VIII was won by Morelands Primary School, Waterlooville. The second prize went to St Swithun's School, Southsea



The winning entry from Morelands School, Waterlooville

The Portsmouth Children's University and family groups took part in flag-making art workshops. These pennants were used in the procession which formed the finale of the celebrations. A number of schools and groups were involved in the Tudor Pageant which started in Portsmouth Historic Dockyard and finished at Southsea Castle. The firework spectacular in the evening attracted many local people who would not usually visit the museum.

Our year-long partnership with Garry Whitehead, Head of Art at Portsmouth Grammar School, has resulted in the creation of a library of images based on the Cowdry print which have already been used for family learning. As part of the Festivities, a display was mounted in Portsmouth Cathedral featuring life-sized Tudor figures created by pupils at the school.



One of the images produced by Garry Whitehead

## South East Volunteer Award Winner

Congratulations to Joy Critcher who was the South East regional winner for the Marsh Volunteers for Museum Learning Award 2009. She attended the award ceremony at the British Museum with Trevor and her family. This award recognises best practice among volunteers in engaging the public with museum collections. Joy has volunteered in the museum for the last ten years, delivered talks as part of the Mary Rose Information Group and more recently made a significant contribution to the community outreach programme. Joy has often been on several visits a week in addition to her weekend duties in the museum.



Joy (right) with Trevor on an outreach visit to Carers UK

## MSc Maritime Archaeology (Ship and object Conservation)

An exciting new academic venture between the University and the Mary Rose Trust will begin in October 2009. A post-graduate course in Maritime Archaeology (conservation) will focus on the conservation and curation of waterlogged archaeological materials recovered from the marine environment. This course is designed for those with a first degree in conservation or a related science background and relevant professional experience.

Through the Mary Rose Trust conservation facilities and Southampton University Centre for Maritime Archaeology students will have access to a wide range of materials, structures and objects from underwater and intertidal excavations, as well as access to a number of protected sites and to the organisations that manage them including English Heritage.

The course will also provide a solid foundation for those intending to progress to Doctoral research, as well as helping you develop professional skills relevant to work in the academic, museum and heritage management sectors. The course is based within the University of Southampton's Centre for Maritime Archaeology but will be delivered through an innovative collaboration with Mary Rose Trust in Portsmouth's Historic Dockyard.

To discuss the course, please contact:

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## Science

Our current science learning programme continues with a variety of activities for different audiences:

- Primary and secondary school pupils take part in workshops on a regular basis both at the museum, in school and at other venues such as the Primary School Science Fair on HMS Warrior. We have also extended our reach to Applied Science courses for older pupils.
- National Science Week was celebrated in the museum with hands-on family activities based on the conservation of the ship and her collection.
- Our participation in the regional organisation 'Science Links In Museum Education' continues to pay dividends with training and networking opportunities. We have been involved in a number of initiatives including the Association of Science Education conference to promote science learning in museums and a new project for secondary school pupils led by the Science Museum in London.



*Secondary school pupil enjoying a science session at the Mary Rose*

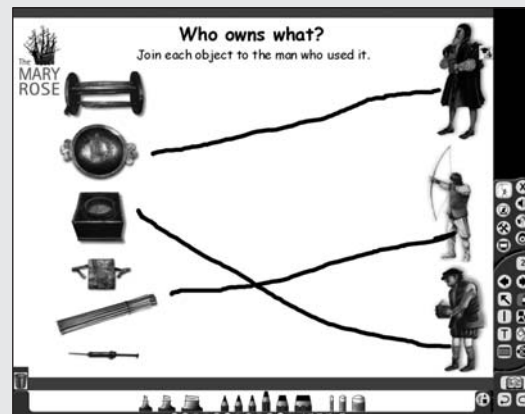
## Internship



*Sam Loveday in action at the Museum*

In April the Learning Department welcomed its first intern, Sam Loveday, who worked at the Trust for 3 months before starting a postgraduate teacher-training course at the University of Edinburgh. He has been a valued member of the team and has also developed projects and resources independently. Sam played a key role in preparing material for the innovative 'Get Onboard' programme. This partnership project with Portsmouth Football Club will launch in September. He has also planned and delivered a new session for secondary pupils combining History and English using Tudor language and role play.

## New Technology



*Interactive whiteboard resources*

The Learning Department is reaching new audiences using the latest technology. We have talked online to a school in Birmingham using Skype, an exciting development that will enable us to reach schools that are too far away to come and experience the museum in person. We are working in partnership with Promethean to create free downloadable whiteboard resources for teachers. They have kindly donated an interactive whiteboard for our new teaching space. We have also extended the information and resources available for primary and secondary teachers on our website to include learning objectives, museum trails and pre- and post-visit activities.

"Working in the Mary Rose Learning Department has been a wonderful opportunity and has provided me with experience that will prove invaluable when I start my teacher training. I have been involved with all areas of learning across the Trust, teaching both primary and secondary pupils as well as special needs and community outreach. The teaching I have done in a formal setting in the both the Museum and on visits to schools has benefited me enormously and I feel much more confident in standing up in front of classes than I did when I arrived three months ago; something that will stand me in good stead in the months to come. I have particularly enjoyed and been surprised by the wide range of subjects that I have taught in relation to the Mary Rose, ranging from Science to English, not just the History I expected to teach before I came here."