

# The Story Boat project



The Story Boat project is the creation of a miniature maritime memories museum from an upturned boat in which people's working memories of our coastline are being recorded and preserved.

Traditional wooden boatbuilder Gail McGarva in collaboration with wheelwrights Mike Rowland & Son have

given a new lease of life on land to the retired Dorset fishing boat 'Vera' the lerret of 1923. She has been transformed into an enchanting oral history recording and exhibition space.

In 2010 Gail McGarva built a 'daughterboat' to Vera. This new build not only sought to preserve a boat in danger of extinction but also preserve the art of boatbuilding 'by eye'. Since the building of the daughterboat, Gail held a vision for Vera the motherboat in becoming the custodian of people's working memories of Lyme Bay.



Martin Haswell

Now with support from Arts Council England, West Dorset District Council, G.F Eyre Trust, Trusthouse Charitable Foundation and a wide range of local sponsors, this vision has come to fruition.

We hope you enjoy this celebration of our voices of the sea and the traditional crafts of boatbuilding and wheelwrighting.



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