

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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Latest News of the Museum

Meet our Trustees

The Museum is fortunate to have a dedicated team of Trustees and volunteers who give their time to help preserve and share the history of Exmouth. We would like to introduce the five members of our team.

Rev. David Arnott - Co-Chair of the Trustees

David is a retired Reverend who discovered Exmouth many years ago - and all the sand and mudbanks in the river sailing here! - on his day-off from an urban parish. Fascinated by the area's Maritime history. Previously worked in London and Liverpool. He became a Trustee in 2024 and has taken on the role of Co - Chair. David enjoys our vibrant local community, and sings with the local Shanty Men. David loves museums, and is delighted to support our unique Museum and its work preserving and sharing the history of Exmouth for both local people and visitors.

Pete Hayes - Co-Chair of the Trustees,

Pete is not only a Trustee but also a member of the Museum Management Committee. He is a Museum Steward on Monday afternoons and Thursday mornings.

Pete moved to Exmouth in 2022 and joined the Museum in 2023. Since then, he has become actively involved in supporting the Museum and helping to ensure that Exmouth's history continues to be preserved for future generations.

Pete has been coming to Exmouth since he was 13 and went to Rolle College in Exmouth in the 1980's to do his PGCE.

Elizabeth Deasy - Trustee

Elizabeth lives in Exmouth and may be familiar to many people as the wife of Graham Deasy, the Exmouth Town Mayor.

Elizabeth joined the Museum as a Trustee in July 2026 and brings her enthusiasm for Exmouth and its community to the Museum's work.

Pam Brice - Trustee and Steward

Pam was born in Exmouth and has lived here all her life. She has seen many changes in the town over the years and has a real connection with Exmouth's history and community.

Pam is a Museum Steward on Thursday afternoons and also works as an assistant at the Exmouth Tourist Information Centre. Her local knowledge and experience are a valuable addition to the Museum.

Diary Dates SEPTEMBER 2026

Thursday 17TH September 2026

Museum Coffee Morning
at The Axis Centre (behind the cinema) Market St.
Exmouth

Thursday 25th September 2026

Museum Quiz night

7.45 start, at the Wings Bar
or **A Treasure Hunt** around
the town (which **TBC**)

Tuesday 29th September 2026

Public AGM 9.30am

at The Town Hall, St. Andrew
Road, Exmouth. in the
Committee Room on the first
floor.

Tim Cope - Trustee and Steward

Tim is a lifelong Exmouth resident and has witnessed many changes to the town over the years. One of those changes was the loss of Sharps Timber Yard, where his father worked for many years.

Tim has been a businessman in Exmouth and now gives his time as a Museum Steward on Thursday mornings. His lifelong knowledge of the town gives him a personal connection to the history that the Museum works to preserve.

Could You Become a Museum Trustee?

The Museum Trustees meet four times a year to discuss matters relating to the Museum and help guide its future.

If you would be interested in becoming a Trustee and helping the Museum continue its important work of preserving Exmouth's history, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Please contact Pete Hayes at the Museum or email exmouthmuseum@gmail.com to find out more.

Remarkable Women of Exmouth, Nancy Perriam

Exmouth has been home to many famous – and sometimes infamous – women whose extraordinary lives are celebrated in the Stable Gallery at Exmouth Museum.

Born Ann Letton in Littleham on 12 April 1769, Nancy lived a life that was anything but ordinary. In 1788 she married Edward Hopping, a Royal Navy seaman who served as a second gunner during the Napoleonic Wars.

At that time, some sailors' wives were permitted to accompany their husbands at sea. Nancy not only sailed with Edward but also served as a "powder monkey" – carrying gunpowder from the magazine to the gun crews during battle and helping to care for the wounded. It was dangerous and demanding work, requiring both courage and determination.

In 1793, Nancy and Edward were serving aboard HMS Crescent, where she was also employed as

personal seamstress to the ship's captain, Sir James Saumarez. Her brothers and twelve other men from Exmouth were also members of the ship's company. When Captain Saumarez transferred to HMS Orion, Nancy and Edward went with him. The couple returned to England in 1799, and Edward worked on boats sailing in and out of Exmouth. Sadly, tragedy struck on 19 July 1802 when his boat capsized in a storm near Teignmouth, and he drowned.

Three years later, Nancy married John Perriam, a widower and Trinity House pilot. When he died in 1812, Nancy was widowed for a second time, aged just 43.

Determined to support herself, she earned a living selling fish through the streets of Exmouth. In recognition of her wartime service, the Royal Navy



awarded her an annual pension of £10 - a fitting acknowledgement of her contribution to the nation. By 1841, Nancy was living in a cottage at the top of Tower Street with her granddaughter, her husband and their five children. She died on 29 January 1865 and was laid to rest in Littleham Churchyard.

Today, Nancy's story continues to be remembered around Exmouth. Her former cottage on Tower Street bears a blue plaque.

Many visitors will also know The Powder Monkey, the Wetherspoon pub whose name recalls the naval role Nancy so bravely carried out more than two centuries ago.

Nancy Perriam's story is one of resilience, courage and service. She remains one of Exmouth's most remarkable daughters, and her legacy continues to inspire all who discover her extraordinary life.

Editorial note: The original article was written by Pam Langford for OneMag. This version has been AI-generated from the original article and is not the original text by Pam Langford.

A Wonderful Afternoon of Tea & Song in Exmouth

Saturday afternoon, 22 August, was a truly memorable occasion as the Sheppards Row community came together for a delightful afternoon of Tea & Song at the Exmouth Salvation Army Hall.

The event was a joint community venture involving the **Exmouth Salvation Army**, and the **Exmouth Museum & Heritage Centre** – all proud members of the Sheppards Row Community.

Guests were treated to a wonderful chorus of popular songs, beautifully performed by **Exmouth A Cappella**, creating a lively and enjoyable atmosphere throughout the afternoon. Alongside the music, visitors enjoyed delicious homemade cakes served with plenty of cups of tea – a perfect combination for a traditional community afternoon.

The event proved to be far more popular than expected. Tickets had been selling in advance, but even more people decided to come along on the day. Such was the support that every available chair in the Army Hall was filled, making it a fantastic success and a real testament to the strength of community spirit in Exmouth. Even had one lady who was 103 years of age enjoy the afternoon with her daughter.

We were also delighted to welcome the Exmouth Town Mayor and his wife, whose company added a special touch to the occasion.

The afternoon was not only about music, tea and cake, but also about bringing people together, celebrating local talent and strengthening the links between organisations within the Sheppard's Row Community.

A heartfelt thank you goes to everyone who helped organise the event, those who provided the homemade cakes and refreshments, the performers from **Exmouth A Cappella**, the **Salvation Army team**, the **Exmouth Museum & Heritage Centre**, and **Tesco Community Champion** for the tea & coffee, and, most importantly, everyone who came along and supported us.

With such an enthusiastic response, it was certainly an afternoon to remember – and one that demonstrates just how much can be achieved when local community organisations work together.



Annual General Meeting

You are warmly invited to attend our Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Date: Tuesday, 29 September 2026

Time: 9:30 am

Venue: Exmouth Town Hall, St Andrews Road, Exmouth, EX8 1AW

Everyone is welcome, and tea and coffee will be available.

Please note that **parking at the Town Hall is limited**.

On arrival, please sign in at reception.

The Town Hall team will direct you to the **Committee Room**, which can be accessed via the lift or stairs.

We look forward to welcoming you.