

About the museum

First opened over a shop in Baxtergate, it moved in 1827 to the top floor of the building now known as *Quayside* Fish Restaurant, on the fashionable waterfront promenade of the Victorian resort.

The present building was opened in 1931, with the Chapman wing and Kendall library added in the 1950s. In 2005, after local fundraising and with a Heritage Lottery grant, the New Wing - comprising a lecture room, workrooms, costume and exhibition galleries, and cafe - increased our capacity to meet modern needs, whilst preserving the valued 'Victorian/Edwardian' atmosphere of the main hall. In 2009 Whitby Museum achieved Accreditation under a national scheme.

Our collections include

- exhibits representing Whitby's history, daily life and worldwide connections
- world class Jurassic fossils, including many *type fossils* (those first identified which gave their name to the classification type);
- important items of maritime science, including items from Cook's surveying expeditions, Scoresby the Elder's Crow's nest, and the scientific instruments and reports from Scoresby the Younger's Arctic voyages;
- a major collection of jet artefacts demonstrating the versatility of Whitby's craftsmen;
- a noted collection of ethnography;
- more than 200 garments, from over two centuries of fashion.
- Over 80,000 objects on display
- **The Society's Library and Archive** contains a rich collection of manuscript and printed material connected with the Museum's collections, and with the area's past.

About The 'Lit and Phil'

This was founded in January 1823 to form and run a museum *with some pleasing subjects for study, a source of amusement and as an object of attraction for strangers*. Today we have an international membership of about 750 who support the work of the Museum and its associated Library and Archives, through the annual subscription, our principal source of income.

Whitby Town Council owns the building and receives 60% of visitors' entrance fees towards maintenance. The Society owns the contents of the Museum and Library and is responsible for conserving and presenting the collections.

Why join The 'Lit and Phil'?

- Free admission to the Museum
- Annual Report on the activities of the Society; this also includes articles relating to the collections and the district.
- Opportunity to have a say in its affairs at the A.G.M. held in early spring.
- Members have access to books and archives for their own researches, and have the privilege of borrowing books which are not 'reserved' as too rare or fragile to leave the librarians' care.
- 10% discount on Society publications
- Free admission to Society events

Other chances to help

Whitby Museum is run almost entirely by unpaid volunteers from all walks of life, with a wide range of skills and knowledge. Some help with carpentry, display, or school parties; curators or librarians; running our monthly lecture programme, help to mount exhibitions, act as stewards, help raise funds, or assist wherever need arises, according to their skills or interests. Volunteers work in small teams, in their own time, to help this well known museum.

To volunteer please contact Manager:

Email: manager@whitbymuseum.org.uk

SPONSORS FOR YOUR APPLICATION

Society sponsors:

1. Name.....

Signature.....

Date.....

2. Name.....

Signature.....

Date.....

Other sponsors (see note 2 overleaf)

1.

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Tel.....

How known.....

Email.....

Signature.....

Date.....

2.

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

How known.....

Email.....

Signature.....

Date.....

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Please print clearly

Name.....
Address.....
Postcode.....
Tel:.....
Email:
Do you hope to gain anything in particular from your membership, eg opportunity for research, volunteering in the museum etc?
Do you have any particular skills, interests or experience that you would be able to share with the society?
Signature
Date

TO BECOME A MEMBER

Membership is open to all adults over 18 who support the Museum with a yearly subscription.

To apply:

- Fill in the form overleaf and opposite
- Obtain the signatures of two members of the Society (preferred) or of two character referees. Because members have privileged access to items in the Society’s care, this formality is necessary for insurance purposes.
- Send your form to the address shown
- Your application will be processed by the Membership Secretary, who will seek approval at a meeting of the Society’s Management Committee. This usually meets every two months. (Applications may sometimes take slightly longer).
- After acceptance you will be asked to pay your subscription, currently £25 per person (£35 for two people living at the same address.) This should be sent to the address shown. You will be sent a Bank Order Form should you prefer this method.

Please note: we do not offer ‘Life membership’; nor do we currently operate a ‘Junior’ section.

JOIN THE ‘LIT & PHIL’

Help

WHITBY MUSEUM

preserve the past for the future



WHITBY LITERARY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

Registered Charity No 1171266
Accreditation No 1158

Your completed form should be returned to:

The Hon. Membership Secretary

Whitby Museum

Pannett Park, Whitby

North Yorkshire YO21 1RE

01947 602908