



## JAMES & MARY WALKER COMMUNITY RESTORATION PROJECT

Anstruther lifeboat 1904 - 1933 Watson Class ON 521

Registered Charity No. SC045022.

Patron Lord Campbell of Pittenweem.

[jmwalkerlifeboat.org.uk](http://jmwalkerlifeboat.org.uk).

[anstrutherlifeboat.org](http://anstrutherlifeboat.org)

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### Picture update from the Scottish Fisheries Museum Conservation Centre Anstruther



Over the last year there has been considerable progress made on the hull of the James & Mary Walker in the Scottish Fisheries Museum Conservation Centre ( the Old Empire Cinema store) during the construction work.

Grant aided work has been taking place to make the building initially wind & water tight, this work with internal access to the underside of the roof and wall heads has understandably had a disruption on the progress made by Barry Gourlay the Restoration PM and his team, with periods of restricted access and 'no go' areas.



With most of the hull timber work and deck completed the team looked at ways of replicating the cork D fender towards the top of the hull. The solution indicated in the photos was to attach dense insulating foam strips to the hull and sand to the templated shape. ready for the final finish.



Following the D fender the forward and stern ruffle holes through the keel, used to secure the lifeboat to the carriage or during launch and recovery operations were fabricated. Stainless steel sheets cut to the template made from the existing and bolted through as originally secured.





Further work has been completed on the bow to house the rope roller on the stem post.

The base bracket for the mast (only to be used for demonstration) has been fabricated and located plus the grab rails secured to the forward whale backs.





The ten relieving valves have been fabricated and prepared for insertion in the deck connected to relieving tubes, this was a way of removing the excess water from the lower part of the deck through a one way counter balanced valve. The original locations were clearly visible on the hull though they had been patched for later use.

The rudder template mock up has been fabricated to establish the additional parts of the original hinge mechanism required



Thanks to the efforts of Barry, Roy Tony & Jimmy the D fender has now been completed with its fibreglass skin, the hull is now just about ready for painting, but this is now dependant upon the access and correct conditions within the building.

The next stage will be to provided the additional fittings, oars, mast sails etc and may be a carriage, all dependant upon how and where the J&MW will be displayed for the good & education of the community.

For this display stage - We are still awaiting a decision from the RNLI regarding the alterations / new lifeboat station building at Anstruther for the Shannon Class Lifeboat and the possible space made available for an extension to the current RNLI history gallery, to incorporate further heritage items and form an RNLI museum, including the completed James & Mary Walker Lifeboat within the visitor access area to the heritage display and the RNLI Gift Shop.