

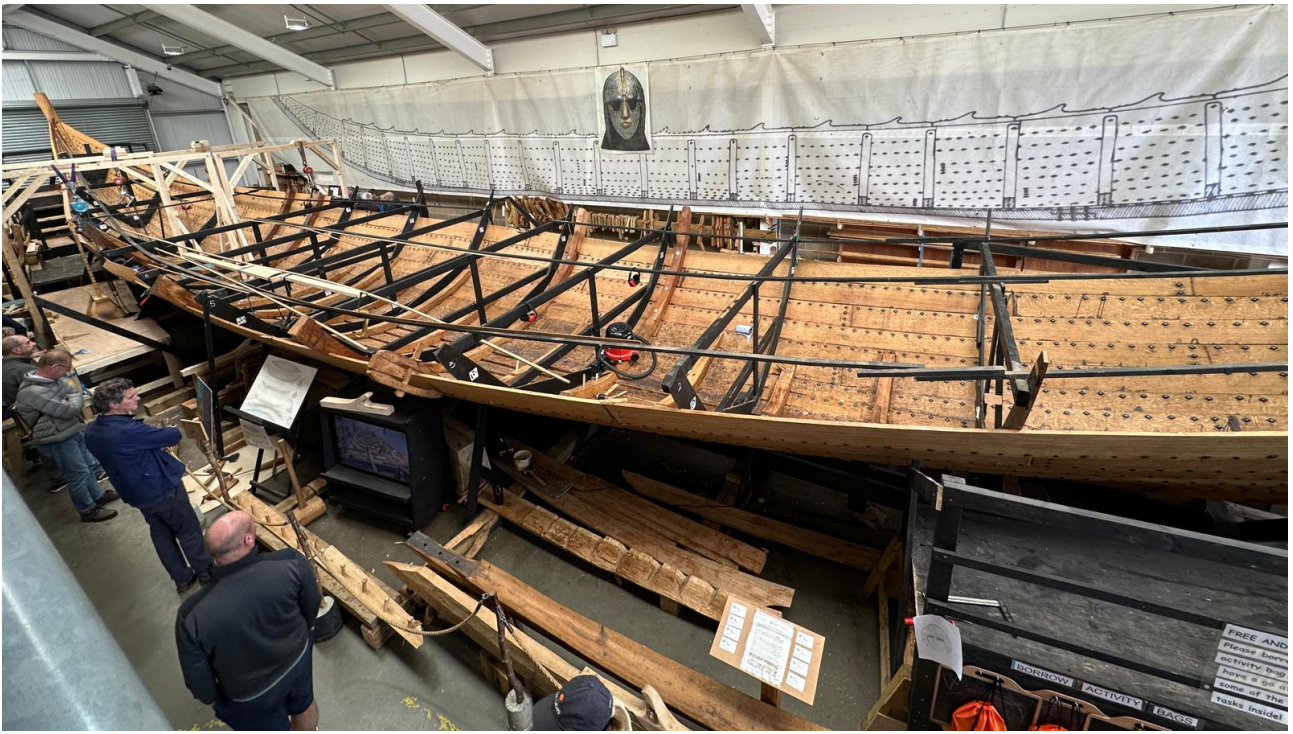


As the Shipwright coffers are replenished once more I thought it might be fun to hear from one relatively recent livery member (2023 admission) who came to the livery with the aim of 'giving back' after a 35 year career in the domestic maritime sector. I founded and operated a successful classic boat brokerage, restoration, maintenance and charter business on the river Thames which was sold in October 2024 to a long established boatbuilding family.

Finding myself with some spare hours and alongside running my electric boat hire company Pure Boating Ltd., I wanted to find some worthwhile volunteering and having trained as a business coach I am now part of the mentoring team for the Shipwrights. I also personally

benefitted from employing a former BBA student who was able to study at the Boat Building Academy thanks to a grant from our livery. She stayed with me for five years and now works on the Golden Hind in Southwark. Earlier this year I was invited to the Academy's launch when their students see their year's coursework afloat for the first time. Again it was thanks to the livery's generosity that some of those talented young adults completed their course and are now working in traditional boatbuilding up and down the country. We should be very proud. To find out more visit [www. https://boatbuildingacademy.com/](https://boatbuildingacademy.com/) or go to Lyme Regis and visit. Our fellow Shipwright Will Reed, who is the Director and a trustee, will be happy to show you round.





On a recent trip to Suffolk I visited the amazing project underway in Woodbridge where a group of boatbuilders, helped by a phalanx of volunteers, is bringing to life a full size replica of the Sutton Hoo Saxon Ship discovered in the famous excavation so perfectly dramatized in the film aptly named *The Dig*. Buried in the seventh century and with its replica nearing completion and aiming to sail around the coast and up the Thames to Oxford in 2027, it is an extraordinary undertaking. The long-term vision of the organisation is to be the leading centre for the research, learning, and promotion of historical maritime culture in the United Kingdom. We Shipwrights should be proud to know that we have contributed through our charitable giving to this fantastic project. Find out more at <https://saxonship.org/>

And lastly, at least for now, consider coming to the Traditional Boat Festival in Henley-on-Thames in July where once again the livery company has supported the presence of the BBA by paying for their stand. Over three days from Friday 17th to Sunday 19th July, Fawley Meadows on the Bucks bank of the Thames is alive with more than 100 historic boats including a fleet over 20 Dunkirk Little Ships, several steam boats, mid century wooden cruisers and much much more. You can expect to marvel at our riverside version of the Goodwood Revival where the classic cars

are just a side show! I will have my very own 30ft Victorian teak launch on site so please come for a cruise along the famous Henley Royal Regatta course and enjoy the spectacle from the water. www.tradboatfestival.com

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