

Our Top Ten

The Museum has so many interesting artefacts and stories, but if you only have a short time here why not track down our ten must-see items.

See overleaf for further details.

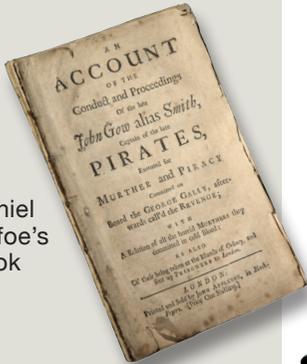


1



Buddo

2

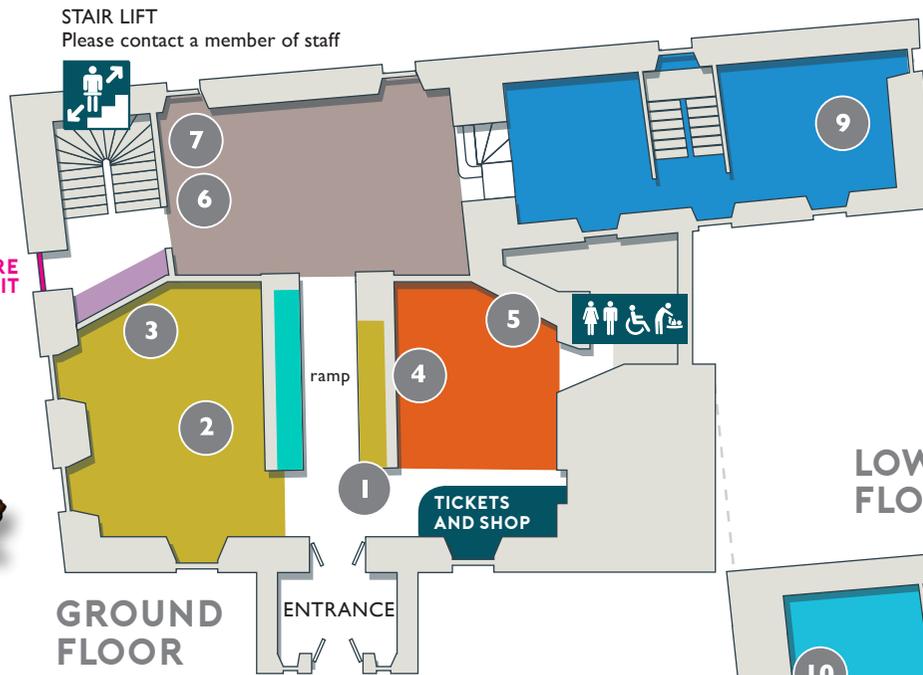
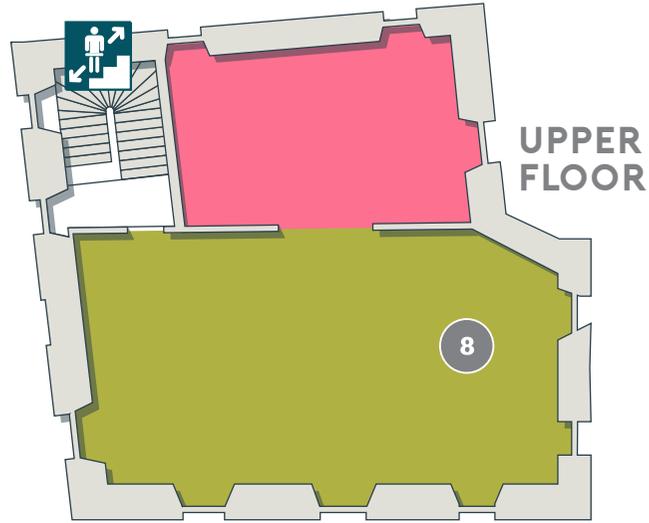


Daniel Defoe's book

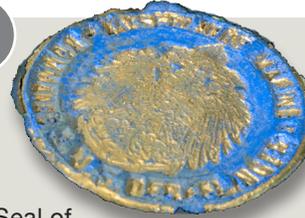
3



Tin fiddle



4



Seal of SMS Derfflinger

5



Dolphin from HMS Royal Oak

6



Sir John Franklin's Arctic medal

7



John Rae's octant

8

Hugh Miller's fossil

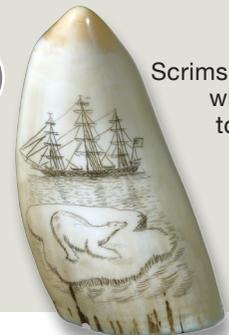


9



Commemorative bowl for the vessel Isabella

10



Scrimshaw whale tooth

Social and Maritime History

Temporary Exhibitions

Wartime and Scapa Flow

Hudson Bay and Dr John Rae

Dr William Balfour Baikie

Natural History

Ethnography

Seafaring

Whaling and Moravian Mission

Our Top Ten

1

A Neolithic human figurine. Dating to circa 2900 to 2400 BC, 'Buddo' is just one of a handful of known figurines from the whole of the British Neolithic and is exceptionally rare. It was discovered at Skara Brae by William G. Watt in the 1850s or early 1860s.

2

A book by Daniel Defoe, c1726. *An Account of the Conduct and Proceedings of the late John Gow alias Smith, Captain of the late Pirates, Executed for Murther and Piracy Committed on board the George Gally, afterwards call'd the Revenge; with A Relation of all the horrid Murthers they committed in cold Blood; as also of their being taken at the Islands of Orkney, and sent up Prisoners to London.* This copy being one of only five known to exist.

3

A metal fiddle made by James Scarth Foubister, of Deerness, after his own was smashed at sea. Being a blacksmith Foubister decided to make himself a new fiddle from tin in order to withstand the rigours of life on board a herring fishing boat.

4

An impression from the seal of the German battlecruiser SMS *Derfflinger* which was scuttled in Scapa Flow on 21st June 1919. The original seal stamp is in Germany.

5

A bronze ornamental 'dolphin' from a steam pinnace carried by HMS *Royal Oak*. On 14th October 1939 *Royal Oak* was torpedoed when German u-boat *U-47* penetrated the defences of Scapa Flow.

6

This medal is now understood to be the missing Arctic Medal awarded posthumously to Sir John Franklin, Arctic explorer, in 1857. These medals were awarded by the Royal Navy for service in the Arctic.

7

An octant used by John Rae, Orcadian Arctic explorer, on his voyages. The octant is a measuring instrument used primarily in navigation and map-making.

8

This fossil led Hugh Miller (1802 - 1862), the self-taught Scottish geologist, to write *Footprints of the Creator*. Miller's book *Asterolepis of Stromness* became a formative influence on Darwin's *The Origin of Species*, and the fossil remains a star exhibit today.

9

A porcelain bowl inscribed *Capt. A Rousey The Isabella of Stromness*. Captain Rousey commissioned two punch bowls in Denmark to celebrate his trading vessels *Isabella* and *Annie*.

10

A piece of scrimshaw worked on the tooth of a sperm whale. One side shows a fully rigged sailing ship passing a polar bear on a piece of floating ice. The other side shows a whale rising from the sea and knocking men out of their small boats.