



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**22 July 2020**

## **The Historic Dockyard Chatham shortlisted for national award for lockdown activities**

The Historic Dockyard Chatham has been shortlisted for the Kids in Museums Family Friendly Museum Award From Home, it was announced today.

Kids in Museums has run a prestigious annual award for the past 15 years, recognising the most family friendly heritage sites in the UK. This year, the charity asked families and museums to vote for what they thought was the best online activity for families during lockdown. A panel of museum experts whittled down over 400 nominations to a shortlist of 26 museums.

The Historic Dockyard Chatham was recognised for its 'Dockyard From Home' campaign linked to the Arts Award Discover programme. Children were encouraged to follow weekly videos to make nautical themed crafts, including a pom pom Octopus, Jolly Roger flag and a juice carton Dazzle Ship. Each craft activity linked to a part of the Historic Dockyard's history and children were encouraged to complete a weekly log book to document their activities.

Lynnette Crisp, Head of Marketing and Communication, Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust said:

*We are thrilled to have been nominated for this prestigious award. Lockdown has been a challenge for us all and the closure of The Historic Dockyard to visitors has been difficult for both our staff and our visitors. Creating easy-to-follow, arts-based activities enabled us to engage with our visitors virtually, giving them the opportunity to recreate a little taste of Dockyard spirit in the comfort of their own home. In the absence of physical visits, the campaign also allowed us to continue fulfilling our important charitable objective of 'learning.' We have loved seeing everyone's creations over the last few months. We have our fingers crossed for the awards announcement later in the year and wish our fellow nominees luck.*

The Historic Dockyard Chatham is vying against four other museums in the Best Website Activity category.



Over the summer holidays, family judges will try out all the activities and their feedback will decide a winner and highly commended award for each category. The winners will be announced at an awards ceremony in October.

The Family Friendly Museum Award From Home has been made possible by funding from Arts Council England.

## **MORE PRESS INFORMATION**

Please contact Lynnette Crisp on 01634 823800 or email [lcrisp@chdt.org.uk](mailto:lcrisp@chdt.org.uk) for further information.

## **Notes to Editors**

### **About The Historic Dockyard Chatham**

The Historic Dockyard Chatham is the only place in the world that lets you explore a complete dockyard from the age of sail and beyond. It's a unique destination that celebrates Great Britain's magnificent maritime past and unmatched contribution to the Royal Navy's shipbuilding excellence that led to worldwide command of the oceans.

Chatham offers unrivalled access to the ships that shaped the world, from a Victorian anti-slavery sailing ship, to a Second World War Destroyer or a Cold War submarine and the stories of the people who made them. From Chatham's historic buildings, from the Commissioner's House and officers' quarters to the remarkable Victorian ropery, where the rigging for HMS Victory was made, to its collection of maritime archaeology, the Dockyard forms an indispensable part of Britain's naval history and its national heritage.

As a fully accredited museum, Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust collects, preserves, researches and exhibits objects and materials connected with the history of the dockyard and its people. It studies the development of Royal Navy warship design, construction and the use of the River Medway by the Royal Navy.

Visitors to and users of The Historic Dockyard Chatham are fundamental to its purpose and the economic reuse of the site and its buildings. Its staff and volunteers play a vital role in providing a high level of service and customer care. The Trust is also involved in the on-going regeneration of Medway and The Thames Gateway, with Culture and Heritage at its heart.

As part of the Trust's strategy of "Preservation through re-use" recent projects have secured the long-term financial sustainability (on a revenue basis) of the wider Historic Dockyard site. The economic outputs from the new uses of the recently opened Fitted Rigging House as well as other activities across the site will bring the total annual contribution made to Medway's economy to £26.3m in 2019, building on the 2012 estimate of £16m (64% growth).

### **About Kids in Museums**



We are a charity dedicated to making museums open and welcoming to all children, young people and families. We support and champion family friendly organisations through wide-ranging initiatives, including the Family Friendly Museum Award and Takeover Day. We invite heritage organisations to sign up to our Manifesto, which sets out simple guidelines for making museums easy to reach for all ages. [www.kidsinmuseums.org.uk](http://www.kidsinmuseums.org.uk)

Find us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

## **The full shortlist for the Kids in Museums Family Friendly Museum Award From Home is:**

### **Best Film**

- Cooper Gallery, Barnsley – Wow Wednesdays
- Florence Nightingale Museum, London – Meet Miss Nightingale
- London Fire Brigade Museum – The Great Fire of London
- National Football Museum, Manchester - Kicking Off Your Creativity
- University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge - Zoology Live! Online Festival

### **Best Social Media Activity**

- Ditchling Museum of Art + Craft - Virtual Museum Club
- National Museums Liverpool - My Home is My Museum
- National Museums Wales - Minecraft Your Museum
- The Novium Museum, Chichester - Virtual Roman Week 2020
- Royal Academy, London - attRAct weekly challenges

### **Best Website Activity**

- Historic Dockyard Chatham - Museum from Home: Arts Award Discover
- The Mary Rose, Portsmouth - Things to Make and Do!
- Museum of Cardiff - Lockdown Legion
- National Galleries Scotland - Home is Where the Art is
- National Videogame Museum, Sheffield - Create Your Own Pixel Art Character

### **Going the Extra Mile**

- Colchester and Ipswich Museums - Museum From Home activity packs
- Dacorum Heritage - Stockpiling Stories
- National Science and Media Museum, Bradford - Distributing Printed Learning Resources to families in BD5
- Seven Stories, Newcastle - Something to smile about - supporting families in East Newcastle
- The Whitworth, Manchester – Still Parents

### **Best International Digital Activity**

- Andy Warhol Museum, USA - Warhol Making It Videos
- Glazer Children's Museum, USA - GCM@Home
- The Glucksman, Republic of Ireland - Creativity At Home
- The Museum of Childhood Ireland Project - Project 2020 Together, Le Chéile
- National Gallery Singapore - #SmallBigDreamersatHome
- Rijksmuseum, Netherlands - Key Challenge