



Kipper's Collections!

The Reaper

Kipper shares with you some of the amazing collections at the Scottish Fisheries Museum to help you learn a bit more about them. This time he has ventured outside in the cold and below the deck of the *Reaper* to discover more about it! Over to Kipper!

I hate to brag, but I sailed on the *Reaper* on my *Ganseay Adventure*! But now she is safely back in Anstruther Harbour. Can you believe she is almost one hundred and twenty years old! The *Reaper* is a big ship...imagine 4 elephants in a line and that is the length of *Reaper*. The *Reaper* is a type of wooden boat called a Fifie, they don't make them anymore so that is why the *Reaper* is so special

The reason we sometimes call ships "she" is not certain. It could be because boats are often named after women but also could be related to our ancient language and be a part of it that stood the test of time.

The *Reaper* was most successful at catching fish called herring, a popular delicacy in Scotland in the past and one that is still enjoyed by many today. In the late 1930's, the *Reaper* held the record for most fish caught in Shetland...almost a quarter of a million!

The *Reaper's* time fishing came to an end over fifty years after being built but was used for another fifteen years to transport cargo. The Scottish Fisheries Museum, where I live, is also now where *Reaper* lives and has lived for forty-seven years! Retirement has not been dull for this ship as she has spent lots of time sailing and visiting schools over the years and has a dedicated team of volunteers at the museum boat club that help her stay in Ship Shape!

Thank you Kipper! We hope you liked learning about the *Reaper*!