

Lynher River Barge CIC

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Lynher River Barge CIC to receive £13,900 from second round of the Government's Culture Recovery Fund

- **Lynher River Barge CIC among more than 2,700 recipients to benefit from the latest round of awards from the £1.57 billion Culture Recovery Fund**
- **This award will support Lynher's plans towards providing a safe pontoon platform and support towards starting again to deliver their educational activities on the waterways.**

Lynher River Barge CIC in Millbrook, SE Cornwall, has received a grant of £13,900 from the Government's £1.57 billion Culture Recovery Fund to help the organisation recover and reopen.

Nearly £400 million has been awarded to thousands of cultural organisations across the country including Lynher River Barge CIC in the latest round of support from the Culture Recovery Fund, the Culture Secretary announced today.

Lynher CIC was established in 2016 to save the historic 1896 Tamar sailing barge 'Lynher' from destruction. The directors' aim is to provide water based activities and maritime skills training to the Plymouth and South East Cornwall waterways communities. Following a successful restoration with the help of many volunteers, Lynher has sailed now for over three years, delivering education and training on the waterways to a growing number of people.

This award will support Lynher's plans towards providing a safe pontoon platform alongside Lynher's mooring which will support and expand the provision of educational activities and safe access to the water for the community of the Plymouth waterways whilst keeping Lynher and her heritage safe.

Over £800 million in grants and loans has already been awarded to support almost 3,800 cinemas, performance venues, museums, heritage sites and other cultural organisations dealing with the immediate challenges of the coronavirus pandemic.

This brings the Government's total investment across grants, capital and repayable finance from the Culture Recovery Fund so far to more than £1.2 billion across over 5,000 individual cultural and heritage organisations and sites.

The second round of awards made today will help organisations to look ahead to the spring and summer and plan for reopening and recovery. After months of closures and cancellations to contain the virus and save lives, this funding will be a much-needed helping hand for organisations transitioning back to normal in the months ahead.

Culture Secretary, Oliver Dowden, said:

"Our record breaking Culture Recovery Fund has already helped thousands of culture and heritage organisations across the country survive the biggest crisis they've ever faced.

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Now we're staying by their side as they prepare to welcome the public back through their doors - helping our cultural gems plan for reopening and thrive in the better times ahead."

Lynher CIC Director Barbara Bridgman, said:

"As many organisation in the heritage sector, Lynher CIC has been badly hit by the pandemic and its heritage had once again, become at risk of disappearing. Thanks to the Government's Culture Recovery Fund, DCMS and the National Lottery Heritage fund, Lynher CIC has received the support necessary to continue to maintain its heritage in good condition. We are now able to reopen and deliver a high standard of education to the communities of the Plymouth waterways and share our maritime heritage with the wider public."

Ros Kerslake, CEO of The National Lottery Heritage Fund, said:

"Spring is definitely here, bringing not only sunshine but that sense of optimism and hope for the future. We are all looking forward to heritage places and other visitor attractions reopening and I am very pleased that we have been able to support DCMS in delivering this vital funding to ensure the UK's heritage sector can rebuild and thrive, boosting local economies, creating jobs and supporting personal wellbeing."

Duncan Wilson, Chief Executive of Historic England, said:

"The value of our heritage sites and the people who run them has been amply demonstrated, as they have provided an anchor for so many of us through the dark days of the last year. Vital grants from the Culture Recovery Fund have helped them survive and will now help them recover, as the places we all cherish start to reopen in the months ahead."

The funding awarded today is from a £400 million pot which was held back last year to ensure the Culture Recovery Fund could continue to help organisations in need as the public health picture changed. The funding has been awarded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Historic England as well as the British Film Institute and Arts Council England

Notes to Editors

At the Budget, the Chancellor announced the £1.57 billion Culture Recovery Fund would be boosted with a further £300 million investment. Details of this third round of funding will be announced soon.

Lynher River Barge is a community interest company limited by guarantee registered in England at Companies House
reg.no.10099042

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About The National Lottery Heritage Fund

Using money raised by the National Lottery, we inspire, lead and resource the UK's heritage to create positive and lasting change for people and communities, now and in the future. www.heritagefund.org.uk. Follow @HeritageFundUK on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram and use #NationalLotteryHeritageFund

About Historic England

We are Historic England, the public body that helps people care for, enjoy and celebrate England's spectacular historic environment, from beaches and battlefields to parks and pie shops. We protect, champion and save the places that define who we are and where we've come from as a nation. We care passionately about the stories they tell, the ideas they represent and the people who live, work and play among them. Working with communities and specialists we share our passion, knowledge and skills to inspire interest, care and conservation, so everyone can keep enjoying and looking after the history that surrounds us all.