

Y1 HISTORY KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER: WHO WAS GRACE DARLING?

Key Vocabulary

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| Steamship | A boat powered by a steam engine. | Gallantry | Bravery |
| Heroine | A woman who has done something very brave. | Survivor | Someone who has stayed alive after coming close to death. |
| RNLI | Royal National Lifeboat Institution | Volunteer | A person who freely offers to do something. |

Key Ideas

- ☐ Grace Darling became a national heroine after risking her life to save the stranded survivors of the wrecked steamship **Forfarshire** in 1838.
- ☐ Her actions were important because many Victorian people never imagined that a young woman would be able to do something so courageous.
- ☐ Grace Darling was born on 24 November 1815 in Bamburgh, Northumberland.
- ☐ Her father, William Darling, was a lighthouse keeper. She helped her father look after Longstone lighthouse. Grace would take her turn watching the sea, from the top of the lighthouse.
- ☐ On the night of 7th September 1838 Grace looked out from a window and saw the wreck of a steamship in stormy water. A small group of survivors was clinging to the rocks. Her father and Grace bravely set off in a small rowing boat to help them. They rescued nine survivors.
- ☐ The story of the shipwreck and rescue was soon in all the newspapers and Grace became a national heroine. She received medals and awards including the Royal National Lifeboat Institution's Silver Medal for Gallantry. People from all over the world wrote to congratulate her, including Queen Victoria
- ☐ Grace and her father courageously put their own lives at risk for the sake of others. It's something that other brave RNLI lifeboat volunteers continue to do today. Her story helps explain what the RNLI charity is all about.
- ☐ The lifeboats and equipment the RNLI use has changed a lot over the years.



How do we know about Grace Darling?

-There are lots of pictures & stories that were written at the time about Grace Darling that we can use as evidence and about her life.

Timeline



