

# Local museum with a global collection

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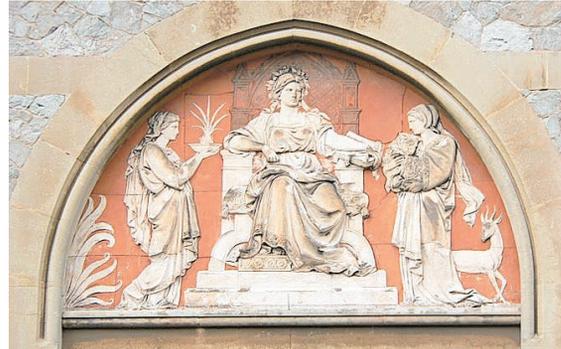
**Torquay Museum's collections have been permanently housed in a purpose-built Venetian-Gothic building on Babbacombe Road since 1876.**

One of the most intriguing architectural elements are two terracotta tympana above the upper windows depicting the arts and nature, both designed by John Philip, the architect famous for creating the Albert Memorial in London.

Another fine feature is the glass 'lantern roof', which illuminates the Upper Gallery.

Over many years the museum's collections have grown thanks to the donations of society members and the public.

The museum now holds more than 330,000 items from Torbay and around the world, of which only about one per cent is on permanent display, partly due to the lack of space.



Terracotta tympanum depicting the arts

These collections include Designated local cave finds and archive material, ethnography, world archaeology and global natural history with items of regional, national and even international significance.

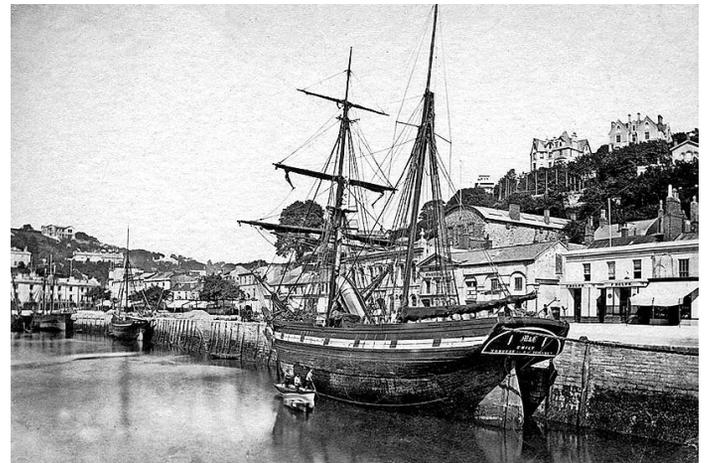
The collections can tell many fascinating stories linked to events of global importance, from the Napoleonic Wars, the sinking of the Titanic and the role of Torbay in D-Day to the discovery of the antiquity of humans and the exploration of the planet.

A letter written by Jane Austen, 400-million-year-old fossil corals, the earliest evidence of modern humans in Britain and much more can be found in a place that inspires never-ending discovery.

Photographs from the museum's archive can be purchased by quoting their PR number to enquiries@torquaymuseum.org. The Museum is a registered charity and the money raised from purchasing images goes to supporting vital work looking after the collections.



Eastman's Butchers' staff in winter 1905



The sailing ship Emily moored at Victoria Parade, c.1880

## MAJESTIC

### A message of thanks from Majestic

Firstly, a big thank you to all our clients for their continued support during these unprecedented times. The coronavirus pandemic is sadly affecting all our families, our businesses, our communities, our way of life. Our thoughts are with all those affected directly, or indirectly, and with all the wonderful people who are working relentlessly to keep us safe and providing essential services.

Secondly, a promise to all our clients, Majestic has your best interest at the forefront of all we do. We have sadly had to postpone our operations and cancel many of our spring and summer holidays. In order to follow Government advice, and to ensure the safety of our customers and staff, we have cancelled all our holidays up to the middle of July and are making decisions on later dates on a daily basis.

Customers who have their holidays cancelled have a choice of a transfer to a later date or to receive a **FULL REFUND** of all their monies paid. We believe that all clients should have a right to their money if we have not been able to provide the original holiday booked. Holiday payments are placed in a clients' trust account and are not released to Majestic until after a holiday is complete.

Clients' funds are therefore readily available to return in circumstances such as this. To date we have refunded a total of nearly £2million. It has been heart warming to receive so many letters of gratitude in return.

The team at the Majestic Templestowe, Torquay, are eager to see you all once again. While the hotel is closed, we are continuing to refurbish public rooms ready for a glorious re-opening.

We are a family company, built on solid foundations, both financially and morally, and thankfully able to contend with the current crisis. Once again, we truly appreciate your support and hope to be running again by the middle of summer.

In the meantime, please look after yourselves and stay safe.

My personal Best Wishes,

*Mark Wright*

Mark Wright,  
Director – Majestic Tours.



While our office is temporarily closed, we are unable to take incoming phone calls. However, we can be contacted by email [holidays@majestictours.co.uk](mailto:holidays@majestictours.co.uk) or through our Facebook page. Thank you.

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